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Paris, Wednesday, February 11, 1998

No. 35,752

Indonesia's Neighbors Fear Wave of Refugees

Singapore and Malaysia Watch With Alarm

By Michael Richardson International Herald Tribune

SINGAPORE - Fearing an influx of refugees, Malaysian and Singaporean officials are watching with increasing alarm as unemployment, inflation and anti-Chinese unrest unfolds in neighboring Indonesia.

While in public the Singapore and Malaysian governments express confidence that President Suharto of Indonesia will manage the country's economic crisis successfully as he has others during his 32-year rule, in private they are making contingency plans for worst-case outcomes including a large-scale influx of Indonesians seeking refuge from troubles at home, analysis said Tuesday.

Checks at all coastal entry points along the Malaysian peninsula have been stepped up as police and immigration authorities anticipate an increase in the already large number of illegal Indonesian immigrants because of worsening economic hardship in Indonesia, the Malaysian press reported.

Analysts also warn that any exodus of ethnic Chinese from Indonesia could present Beijing with a serious policy dilemma over what action it should take, if any, to protect overseas

"Singaporeans and Malaysians in particular are concerned that if this vast and fragile nation imploded, it could lead to the exodus of millions of

people," the Institute of International and Strategic Studies in London said in a recent study of the impact of Southeast Asia's financial turmoil on relations among countries in the region.

"Malaysia and Singapore are acutely conscious that an upheaval in Indonesia would have serious repercussions for them.'

There are 1.2 million legal foreign workers in Malaysia, which has a population of 20 million. An additional 800,000 illegal workers are estimated to be in the country. Most in both categories are from Indonesia.

In a separate but similar study, Political & Economic Risk Consultancy Ltd. in Hong Kong said that widespread social unrest in Indonesia could result in thousands of economic refugees heading to Malaysia and Singapore in search of a better life.

'Facing an economic slowdown themselves, both countries would be loath to accept them," the con-sultancy said. "Refusal to do so, particularly if it is accompanied by media reports of boat people being towed back into international waters, would invite negative publicity from Western human rights campaigners at a time when Malaysia and Singapore were trying to spruce up their respective images in order to encourage fund managers and other foreign investors to return to the region.

The institute in London said that

See ASIANS, Page 4

G-7 Ponders \$10 Billion To Insure Asian Trade

By Alan Friedman International Herald Tribune

LONDON — The United States and its Group of Seven partners are discussing the creation of an unprecedented emergency pool of about \$10 billion worth of special trade insurance that would help cash-strapped Asian companies to continue their manufacturing activities.

James Harmon, chairman of the Export-Import Bank, the U.S. government agency that provides loan guarantees for U.S. exporters, said Tuesday that the aim of the initiative was "to make sure that companies in the Asia region can obtain bank credits so they are able to import the inputs and raw materials they need to keep on manufacturing their goods and thereby generate earnings.

The trade insurance would not be entirely selfless. Besides bolstering the economies of Indonesia, Thailand and South Korea, Mr. Harmon said, the fund would also encourage Asian nations to continue buying goods from the world's industrial countries, while making it more likely that the countries directly affected by Asia's economic downturn can continue paying off their debts.

Since late December," Mr. Harmon said, "bank letters of credit have been drying up for Asian companies that need to import intermediate

products to sustain their manufacturing. Several U.S. and other banks simply stopped approving letters of credit for Korean private-sector companies

The G-7 insurance plan, which is aimed at supplementing other efforts already under way under the aegis of the International Monetary Fund, could serve the dual purpose of offering a financial lifeline to Asian manufacturers that have a good-credit rating, while making sure that exporters based in G-7 countries do not lose business in Asia. In addition, the G-7 export credit

agencies have an interest in keeping trade flowing because they have guaranteed tens of billions of dollars of exports to Asian companies that are now finding it difficult to service their foreign debt. For example, Mr. Harmon said that loan guarantees from G-7 export credit agencies have fin-anced exports to Indonesian companies that account for about \$30 billion of Indonesia's foreign debt. That debt is estimated to range from \$65 billion to more than \$100 billion.

Mr. Harmon, who ended a two-day visit to London and Paris on Tuesday, said in an interview Tuesday that if the G-7 initiative was successful, it would mark "the first time ever that export credit agencies of all G-7 nations,

See POOL, Page 4



Artur Dmitriev and Oksana Kazakova skating to Handel's "Passacaglia."

Russian Skaters Golden

Dmitriev Has a New Partner, but Same Result

for a gold medal.

See SKATERS, Page 20

U.S. stocks rallied to record highs

Tuesday after enough solid corporate

profit reports persuaded investors that the impact from Asian economic tur-

The Dow Jones industrial average

closed 115.09 points higher at a re-

cord 8,295.61, enough to top its pre-vious best close of 8,259.31 on Aug. 6. The broader Standard & Poor's 500

index also set a record high, closing up 8.27 points at 1,019.01. Quarterly

earnings for more than half the

companies in the S&P index have met

or exceeded analysts' expectations.

Gunmen killed a Swiss customs

officer and three German ones in two

separate shootings Tuesday on the

German borders with Poland and

A man shot and killed two German

officers on a crowded bus after

grabbing a pistol from the holster of

one of the agents during a routine

Switzerland, the police said.

moil would be minimal.

Page 11.

By Jere Longman

NAGANO, Japan — Artur Dmitriev and Oksana Kazakova of Russia won the Olympic pairs figure-skating title Tuesday as Dmitriev became the first man to win gold medals with two different partners.

Dmitriev won a gold medal in 1992 and a silver in 1994 with Natalya Mishkutienok. When she retired, Dmitriev paired with Kazakova in 1995. They have the same temperamental, artistic personalities, which was evident Tuesday in their flawed but winning performance skated to Handel's "Passacaglia."

He landed hard on the side by side triple toe loop, and she singled an intended double axel, but apparently the judges were shielded by Dmitriev and did not notice. Their intricate and complicated lifts, synchronized spins and dramatic presentation brought them first-place votes from eight of the nine judges. The judge from the Czech Republic awarded Dmitriev and Kazakova

a perfect mark of 6 for artistry.

Their victory was the 10th in succession for a Soviet or Russian pair at the Winter Games. But it might have been another Russian pair who won Tuesday night if Yelena Berezhnaya and Anton Sikharulidze had not made a mistake six seconds from the end of their 41/2-minute free skate.

Where Dmitriev and Kazakova are power and drama, Berezhnaya and Sikharulidze are speed and flow. And, if they had not made such a stunning error, perhaps the judges would have preferred them to Dmitriev and Kazakova.

But, as Berezhnaya exited from a star lift, Sikharulidze seemed to relax and the pair fell, stunned, to the ice. She had

Clinton Adds Allies For Strike on Iraq

But, Faced With Opposition, He Speaks of a Peaceful Solution

WASHINGTON — President Bill Clinton intensified efforts Tuesday to build international support for a military strike to resolve the crisis with Baghdad over its refusal to allow UN arms in-

Faced with opposition from France, Russia and most of the Arab world to the use of force, the Clinton administration appeared to be less eager to move quickly toward a military attack and spoke openly of its desire to see a peaceful solution.

At a White House ceremony, Mr. Clinton said: "The choice is up to Saddam Hussein. Let the weapons inspectors back on the job with free and unfettered access.

The president noted new support from Canada, Australia and Portugal, while Secretary of State Madeleine Albright told the Senate Foreign Relations Committee that the Netherlands, Germany and Argentina backed the use of force against the government of President Saddam.

Secretary of Defense William Cohen, traveling in the Gulf, added Oman to what is still a short list of Arab allies.

"Friends and allies," Mr. Clinton said, "share our conviction that Saddam must not be allowed to develop nuclear. chemical and biological weapons or the missiles to deliver them."

While the administration contends that it does not need the approval of other countries, a new United Nations landed awkardly on a triple twist earlier, resolution or an act of Congress to punand the fall took them out of contention ish Iraq, the hedged response around the world, particularly among Arab nations, Still, it was a considerable achieveis a sore point while being potentially ment. Only two years ago, Berezhnaya

encouraging to Mr. Saddam.

Prime Minister Jean Chretien announced Tuesday that Canada was

New York Tuesday-6 4 P.M. previous close

123.20

Tuesday @ 4 P.M. previous close

About seven hours later a man

whom the police identified as Italian

shot and killed a German customs

agent and his Swiss counterpart at a

border crossing near Lake Constance

against customs officials that we

haven't seen in the last 25 years, said Finance Minister Theo Waigel.

whose ministry oversees the customs

agency, Page 5.

'This was senseless violence

before critically wounding himself.

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U.S. Stocks Hit High, Muting Asia Woes

AGENDA

Customs Officers Slain at German Borders

sending a frigate, two Hercules transport aircraft and 300 to 400 soldiers to the Gulf to join the military coalition

'It's very clear that we need to be participating in this effort, that I hope will lead to a diplomatic solution, but if we don't indicate that we're serious, nothing will happen," Mr. Chretien said

after his cabinet approved the decision. Prime Minister John Howard said Australia would send a detachment of its elite Special Air Service regiment to join a military operation against Iraq if diplomacy failed to end the confron-

'If it does become necessary for a United States-led coalition to use force then Australia has decided it will make a contribution to that effort," Mr. Howard said after a cabinet meeting. 'We believe it would become re-

grettably necessary for that force to be used," he added. In Portugal, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said Tuesday that the gov-

See IRAQ, Page 6

Grand Jury Calls Mother Of Lewinsky To Testify

WASHINGTON -- Monica Lewinsky's mother was called before a grand jury Tuesday after her lawyer tried unsuccessfully to block a subpoena requiring her to undergo questioning about the possible presidential affair and cover-up involving her daughter.

Ms. Lewinsky's attorneys were also expected to go to court in an effort to stop prosecutors from forcing the former White House intern to testify without full immunity.

William Ginsburg, the lawyer who represents Ms. Lewinsky, was expected

The logistics of impeachment • The judge in the Paula Jones case is urged to step down. Page 3.

to argue in a secret court filing that Whitewater prosecutors had wrongly rescinded an offer to give his client full immunity and should be forced to abide

by the agreement. Mr. Ginsburg said in California on Tuesday that he would come to Washington on Thursday or Friday, but he did not talk about any effort to resist a

Instead, Mr. Ginsburg said, "Oh, come on," when asked whether Ms. Lewinsky would invoke her Fifth Amendment right against self-incrimination and refuse to answer questions before the grand jury.

One option open to prosecutors would be to obtain a court order giving Ms. Lewinsky "use" immunity, under which she would be required to testify or face jail if she refuses. Her testimony could not be used against her.

The Whitewater independent counsel. Kenneth Starr, is investigating accusations that President Bill Clinton had an affair with Ms. Lewinsky and then asked her to lie about it.

Ms. Lewinsky "will appear before the grand jury whenever she is ordered to appear before the grand jury, Mr. Ginsburg said. She will not defy either a federal court order or a subpoena. And she will do what she has to do given the situation she finds herself in. She will not go to jail like Susan McDougal. She has no intention of falling on her sword." Mrs. McDougal has been jailed since September 1996 for refusing to testify in the Whitewater investigation.

. Mr. Ginsburg's comments came as Marcia Lewis, Ms. Lewinsky's mother, and her attorney, Billy Martin, appeared at the U.S. District Counthouse here. Ms. Lewis was previously sub-

poenaed in the investigation. Mr. Martin appeared briefly before the grand jury on his own, then went to a secret meeting in Judge Norma Holloway Johnson's courtroom before returning with his client. Judge Johnson is the chief judge for the Washington area federal court and is in charge of the grand

Officials also confirmed Tuesday that Nancy Hernreich, President Clinton's longtime personal assistant in Arkansas and Washington and supervisor of daily Oval Office operations, was subpoenaed to appear before the grand jury.

No date has been set.
On Monday, Mr. Clinton's attorney.
David Kendall, filed a complaint in U.S. District Court about alleged leaks from the independent counsel's office. Mr.

See WITNESS, Page 6

The Euro Transforms Europe's Politics Fears and Hopes of Coming Monetary Union Make Strange Bedfellows

By William Drozdiak Washington Post Service

BERLIN - As he ponders the coming of a single European currency, Kurt Biedenkopf rocks back in his chair and shivers with grave trepidation. "We have not prepared ourselves for

this momentous step, 'said the president of the state of Saxony. 'We like Europe, but we wonder whether this gamble is really necessary. If it fails, then what do we do? We should move slowly while giving Europe a more solid base." Mr. Biedenkopf's fears are echoed by

many other East Germans. Having embraced unity eight years ago, partly be-cause they were so infatuated with the mighty Deutsche mark, they now question why they should abandon it in favor of the untested euro - especially when one in five of them is jobless.

Newssta	nd Prices
Artilles	Lebanon

aria, a similar rebellion is brewing. There, many conservative merchants who have attained unimagined affluence over the past two decades are asking why they must surrender the mark for what their state leader, Edmund Stoiber, disparagingly calls "esperanto money."

Mr. Biedenkopf and Mr. Stoiber say they are merely voicing apprehensions of their constituents and their own consciences. But as prominent members of the ruling Christian Democratic movement, their apostasy reflects a troubling paradox for Chancellor Helmut Kohl -his traditional political opponents endorse his dream project, but some of his nominal allies are fighting it.

The feuds within Mr. Kohl's governing alliance over the looming demise of the mark and the arrival of the euro illustrate not just the economic anxiety of Europe's largest nation but a subtle transformation in the Continent's political landscape in the post-Cold-War era. The old ideological cleavage between

left and right is vanishing as mainstream parties adopt similar nostrums to prune the welfare state, invigorate the private sector and slash deficits. Instead, debate now centers on those who favor continental solutions against those who defend national sovereignty.

As the global marketplace and the information revolution break down barriers of the nation-state, arguments between "integrationists" and "separatists" are gathering momentum across

In staking his career on the future of the euro as he runs for an unprecedented

In wealthy southern precincts of Bav- fifth term in the autumn, Mr. Kohl has won avid support from the opposition Greens and Social Democrats, who like the idea of a single currency for their own reasons.

"In the past, everything in politics was largely shaped by the East-West conflict," says Karsten Voigt, foreign policy spokesman for Germany's Social Democrats. "The dividing lines be-tween left and right were clearly drawn. You were pro- or anti-communist, for or against détente. But now, all of the main parties see basic goals, such as peace and economic growth, in terms of European integration."

While Christian Democrats and Socialists in Germany still squabble over details of tax reform and citizenship, on many issues the old class-related alignments that pitted labor against business, or advocates of big government versus small, are being replaced by new arguments over the future course of

"As long as you dealt with trade, Europe was a great success and popular with everybody," Mr. Biedenkopf said in the interview. "But when you touch sensitive matters like money, crime, education and foreign policy, you start to run into a lot of resistance from common citizens who don't want to sacrifice what they think are vital parts of their national identity."

Thus, Mr. Kohl's biggest headaches are often caused by heavyweights in his own alliance. Sensing no doubt an op-portunity for political gain, they warn

See EURO, Page 6

inspection on the Polish-German border. The gunman was captured. Two passengers on the bus were wounded. **De Niro Questioned**

French investigators questioned the actor Robert de Niro on Tuesday in connection with a call-girl ring. police sources said.

About Call-Girl Ring

The police picked up Mr. de Niro at the Bristol Hotel where he was staying while shooting a movie in Paris. Mr. De Niro, 54, was interviewed by the police as a witness on a warrant from Frederic N'Guyen, the investigating magistrate who interrogated the actor after a first round of ques-

tioning by the police. Details on why the magistrate questioned Mr. De Niro were not immediately available. Page 6.

Oscar Nominations: 'Titanic' Floats

"Titanic," the epic account of a "All About Eve" in 1950.

James Cameron, the driving force

Among those missing from the list



Robert De Niro in a recent photo.

ing actor. "Men in Black" and "The

Lost World: Jurassic Park" are two

other high-grossing films that won no

Will Hunting" received nine nom-

inations each, including best picture.

The other films nominated for best

picture were "As Good as It Gets"

Page 10.

Pages 8-9.

Pages 7, 15.

Pages 18-21.

and "The Full Monty." Page 22.

"L.A. Confidential". and "Good

top nominations.

fateful love affair on the doomed ocean liner, received 14 nominations for Academy Awards, tying the record number of nominations won by

behind the \$200 million "Titanic." got two nominations - one as producer for the best picture award and another as the film's director. Kate Winslet was nominated for best actress, but her "Titanic" co-star, Leonardo DiCaprio, was passed over.

of nominations in the major categories was Steven Spielberg and his "Amistad," although Anthony Hopkins was nominated for best support-

PAGE TWO

Braving the Elements / Ice Fishing in Siberia

Hobby? Or Expression of Manhood?

By Michael Specter

¶OMSK, Russia — What kind of man would stand for hours in the middle of a frozen river in the middle of Siberia in the middle of winter, battered by winds that could snap an oak and temperatures that would scare an Eskimo? Who would be crazy enough to stick live worms in his mouth to keep them warm, drill a hole in the ice with a corkscrew taller than he is, drop a line

through the hole and wait patiently until an unsuspecting fish happened by? Why, a Russian man, of course In fact, a few million of them. If there is a pastime here to compare to the American male's seemingly

Each winter weekend, fortified by nothing more than a mug of soup and a bottle of vodka, the men of Russia traipse off through endless expanses of snow to stand on huge stretches of ice in the hope of pulling a few small, mostly indigestible carp or

bottomless love of golf, it is undoubtedly ice fish

perch from the icy depths beneath them.

"What do you mean, why?" Igor Makharov, 54, shouted in response to the obvious question. And engineer, Mr. Makharov was standing in the middle of the Torn River here, not 10 minutes' walk from the center of the city. Other men - always alone - had fanned out across the frozen river, each boring holes through the 60-centimeter (2-foot) - floor of ice.

The temperature stood at minus 36 degrees centigrade (32 degrees Fahrenheit below zero), but Mr. Makharov was in heaven.

"I don't know how people live without ice fishing,'' he said. ''If you had ever done it even once, you wouldn't have to ask such a ridiculous question."

Can you just feel how clear the air is?" he asked in all seriousness as his listeners frantically stamped their feet in a futile attempt to share the pleasure of the moment. "To fish here on a day like today is absolute joy. Anybody can fish in the summer. It's not the same. Ice fishing is the only real way I have ever found to forget my troubles completely. It is the most peaceful thing a man can do."

It also seems to be the perfect expression of two immutable Russian traits: a love of suffering and a

Such is the popularity — and importance — of ice fishing, that on his recent vacation in the snowy wilds of northwestern Russia, President Boris Yeltsin made a big show of spending some time on the river every day.

Nobody ever says what he catches. It doesn't matter. Russian men will stand on a sheet of ice until their toes freeze, carefully bending over with a soup ladle to flick unwanted chunks of ice from a lovingly crafted fishing hole. They will return to the same spot on the same river or lake week after week, certain that their spot has a special meaning that could not be found anywhere else on earth.

The routine never varies. The men lower a lure -a worm warmed by mouth or kept alive pinned in an armpit - and then they retreat to a stool and a bottle for a half hour to see what happens.





A man trying his luck on the Tom River near Tomsk. Ice fishing, an immensely popular winter pastime, seems to be the perfect expression of two immutable Russian traits: a love of suffering and a mystical soul.

Ice fishing may sound sedate, but it is often deadly. So far in Russia, more than 50 people have died ice fishing this winter. Some fell through unexpected cracks in the ice. Two froze to death. Several simply drifted on a broken ice floe out to

AST year so many people near St. Peters-burg came unmoored on giant hunks of ice that the police started a regular boat patrol along the coast. Fishermen complained that

There is a little risk to everything that's wonderful," said Sergei Shubov, 44, an electrician. He argues that serenity and isolation are well worth a small chance of frostbite or death.

"Look at Russia's favorite summer hobby," he said. "Do you know how many people die gathering poison mushrooms every year? It doesn't mean it

There must be something to the serenity, because nobody could be doing this for the fish. A man can stand from morning till night, often wrapped in a plastic garbage bag with a hole big enough for a bottle, and his catch can amount to three to five scrawny white fish.

There was a time when no one who fished here could ever fail. Before the Soviet Union turned much of this area into an industrial dump, residents used to take thousands of tons of fish each year from the rivers and lakes of Siberia. Hunting and fishing

made the region prosperous.

No more, though. Tomsk is like most big cities in central Russia and Siberia: Industries dot the riverbanks, and sewage and chemical waste are dumped into the river without a thought to the con-

"The fish may be polluted," said Mr. Shubov, who does this every week of the winter - and in Siberia that's a lot of weeks. "Most people say that if you catch them in winter, they are cleaner. But I don't really do it for the fish. I don't even eat them. I do it for the chance to be alone with my thoughts.' Asked if he thought it was a rather extreme way of getting to know himself better, Mr. Shubov laughed.

"This is how Russians relax," he said. "Who said it's supposed to be comfortable?"

Turks Place Last Bets As Gambling Era Ends

Ankara Shuts Casinos Amid Link to Crime

By Stephen Kinzer

ISTANBUL - The beautiful people were losing their money as usual last weekend at Turkey's casinos, feeding the slot machines and watching intently as the female cronpiers dipped low to scoop up chips at roulene and poker tables.

This time there was a difference, though. An unspoken air of urgency and loss wafted through the smoky air, be-cause the era of casino gambling here is about to end. Everyone knew that at midnight Tuesday, all 79 casinos in Turkey would have to lock their doors for good.
"It's hard to believe this is happen-

ing," said a security guard who gave his name as Ismail as he surveyed a crowd of well-dressed gamblers at Istanbul's Ciragan Palace casino. "I'm going to have to find a new job. So will thousands of other people. Maybe it is nec-

essary, but it's going to hurt."

Parliament voted in June to shut the casmos, prompted in part by growing evidence that they have formed a vital link in the alliance of smugglers, killers, corrupt police officers and high government officials that has evidently been part of Turkey's hidden life for years.

An official report on this clandestine alliance, which has become a major topic of discussion here in recent months, was recently delivered to Prime Minister Mesut Yilmaz. It repeated allegations that some casinos and their owners were involved in illicit acts.

Owners of hotels that house casinos are disconsolate, fearing that they will lose huge sums. "I can't understand why we close the casinos when our competitors, like Greek Cyprus and Spain, have been encouraging new ones to be opened," said Kaya Oztoprak, manager of a hotel in the Mediterranean resort of Antalya.

Mr. Oztoprak and others sought to

block the law by filing a suit, contending. that it is an unconstitutional restriction on their right to do business. The Constitutional Court rejected their suit last month, upholding the law and setting the stage for the scheduled closing.

The first Turkish casinos opened in the late 1960s. Since then, they have spread across the country, with the largest con-centrations in Istanbul and Antalya.

Momentum for closing them began to gather force last year, when Turkey was governed by an Islamic-led coalition. The Islamic-oriented Welfare Party opposes gambling on religious grounds, and

Necmettin Erbakan, who was its leader and the prime minister at that time, said casinos had spread "like an epidemic" to the "farthest corners of Anatolia." Several prominent secularists who

Sinton Eride

pares House

were urging the closing of religious schools agreed that it would seem immoral to oppose religious education while supporting casino gambling. Some said they had been moved by stories of gambling-related family tragedies.
"The casinos lost their original purpose as places to play games of chance and became centers of seduction," said

Husamettin Cindoruk, a former speaker of Parliament who was a leading advocate of the bill to close them. "They ruin neighborhoods and destroy fam-'It's impossible to control them, al-

though we tried. The government placed inspectors inside the casinos, but how can you expect them all to do an honest job when there is so much money involved?'

According to the report submitted to Mr. Yilmaz, heroin dealers, arms smugglers and assorted other criminals have worked closely with some casino owners and have used casinos to launder illegal profits. Several papers have reported that successive Turkish governments allowed gangsters to open casinos and that some of the profits were funneled back to the state and used to finance covert operations.

Among the episodes that brought these ties to public attention was the killing last year of Omer Lutfu Topal, who was

known as Turkey's "casino king." Since Mr. Topal was cut down in a hail of bullets outside his Istanbul home, papers have linked him to a web of criminals and corrupt police officers. His widow is among those who think his killing was ordered by rivals who were not satisfied with money-laundering arrangements he made or refused to make.

Four members of an elite police unit, together with one of Mr. Topal's former partners and two other men, have been charged with his murder. On Monday, the former Istanbul security director, Kemal Yazicioglu, submitted written testimony in which he asserted that the defendants were guilty. They deny the

Mr. Topal was among Turkish casino owners who spread their influence into the Caucasus and Central Asia.

According to press reports after Mr. Topal's death, President Heydar Aliyev of Azerbaijan had allowed him to build a casino in Azerbaijan as a way of paying off a \$6 million-dollar debt that Mr. Aliyev's son Ilham had accumulated at Turkish casinos. The reports also said Mr. Topal received public funds from Turkish officials to finance the construction of three casinos in Turkmenistan

In another indication of the role of casino gambling in the Turkish crime scene, a senior Turkish official said last month that renegade Turkish security agents tried to assassinate the President of Georgia, Eduard Shevardnadze, in 1995 because of "gambling affairs."
The official, Eyup Asik, a minister without portfolio in Mr. Yilmaz's cabinet, said a diplomatic crisis was averted when the Turkish Foreign Ministry sent Mr. Shevardnadze a secret apology.

The president of the casino gambling trade association, Erhan Akbulut, has warned that Turkey will lose 17,000 jobs and more than \$1 billion in annual revenue by closing casinos, and that tens of thousands of Russians, Israelis and other foreigners who come here to gamble will now take their money elsewhere.

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Rabbinate's Ruling Revives a Battle in Israel

The Associated Press

JERUSALEM - Reform and Conservative Jewish leaders said Tuesday they were re-suming their court battle to break the Orthodox rabbinate's monopoly in Israel after the rabbinate rejected a compromise proposal.

"The state of Israel is at a crossroads," a Reform leader, Rabbi Uri Rege, said. "It has to decide whether it will make good the pledge of freedom of conscience given 50 years ago in the Declaration of Independence. The Chief Rabbinate rejected a proposal Mon-

day that would have permitted Reform and Conservative rabbis to join Orthodox rabbis in an institute for prospective converts to Judaism. In return for that participation, the Reform and Conservative movements had agreed that conversions would be carried out in accordance with strict Orthodox Jewish law.

But a statement from the rabbinate said that

TRAVEL UPDATE

Barrier to JFK Rail Link Falls

the airport from Manhattan.

health officials said Tuesday.

medicine but had received no reply.

medicine is brought in." he said.

lines. It is also the terminus for 40 bus lines.

Malaria Epidemic Hits Kenya

He said that the outbreak had reached epidemic level.

others in the neighboring Nyamira district since Jan. 26.

establishing a joint institution "must not even be contemplated" and held the Reform and Conservative movements responsible for the assimilation of many of the world's Jews. Reform and Conservative leaders accused the rabbinate of "declaring war on the Jewish

people" and "slamming the door on com-In the absence of a compromise, the religious

political parties have threatened to quit Prime /linister Benjamin Netanyahu's governing coalition, which would bring down the government, unless the Knesset enacts a law formalizing the Orthodox monopoly over conversions in Israel.

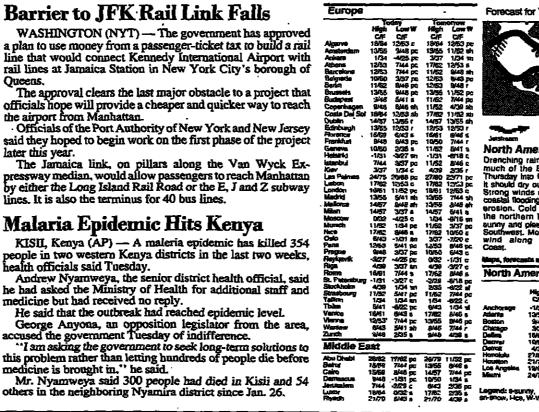
The legislation sought by the religious parties would apply only to conversions within Israel. Those carried out overseas are recognized by Israel whether they are carried out by Orthodox or non-Orthodox rabbis.

The Reform and Conservative movements have filed a petition in the Supreme Court asking it to force the Interior Ministry to register their adherents who converted in Israel as Jews.

On Tuesday, the Interior Ministry, the Ministry for Religious Affairs and the Chief Rabbinate asked the court for a 60-day extension for their response. The court had delayed hearing the case while the two sides tried to work out a compromise.

'I see no reason for any further delay." said Rabbi Ehud Bandel, president of the Conservative movement in Israel.

Also Tuesday, the Reform and Conservative movements submitted a petition to the Supreme Court demanding that the Religious Affairs Ministry allow a Conservative Jew to be seated on the local religious council in the southern town of Arad. The ministry has resisted all attempts to appoint non-Orthodox Jews to the councils.



WEATHER Forecast for Thursday through Saturday, as provided by AcculVeather North America Europe Asia

North America Europe Asia

Drenching rain will affect Pienty of sunshine along much of the East Caast with unseasonable warmin Tokyo Thursday, showers Thursday into Piday, then will continue across much the should dry out Saturday, when we continue across much the should dry out Saturday, showers and central mid Saturday, some furces the standay through coastal flooding and beach Saturday, temperatures will be depling Thursday, showers are sunday and pleasant in the southward to make the middle teers in and wind along the West the Middle East.

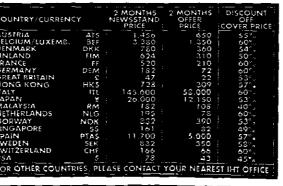
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THE AMERICAS

Last Bets Clinton Evidence g Era End Leaves House Cold Leaves House Cold

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safety matters.

vehicles because of the harm sport utility vehicles have of a broad safety problem is they inflict on other drivers. they inflict on other drivers.

WASHINGTON — While Henry Hyde of Illinois, would ciary Committee chairman, the House leadership has consult with the speaker. Newt quietly begun to consider the Gingrich of Georgia, and other logistics of a possible im-Republican leaders before depeachment inquiry against President Bill Clinton, both ciding to open an inquiry. than it is now before law-

No Push in Congress to Impeach

By Guy Gugliotta

Washington Post Service

chief executive from office.

dependent counsel, can, as re-

quired by law, gather enough

formation' about transgressions involving Mr. Clinton to

send it to the House as

'grounds for impeachment."

ists, House members from

both parties say they wonder

if any misdeeds involved in a

former White House intern

to the level of "high crimes

and misdemeanors" stipu-

lated by the constitution as

makers and aides, an inquiry of

impeachment will most likely

depend as much on the tide of

"Go ahead, make my ay," said John Conyers Jr.

of Michigan, the ranking

Democrat on the House Ju-

diciary Committee, where

"A foolhardy attempt to

impeach an overwhelmingly

popular and successful pres-

ident on inconsistent and

highly suspect circumstantial

evidence is one way to ensure

a Democratic congressional majority next November,"

Surveys continue to demon-

for Mr. Clinton since the scan-

dal broke. A Wall Street Jour-

nal/NBC News poll last week-

end showed him with a 79

percent approval rating. More

typical was the latest News-

week poll, which found a 66

percent approval, with 49 per-

cent saying the president should not be impeached even

if he told Ms. Lewinsky to lie

contrasts markedly with the

circumstances that existed

procedure was used against a

At that time, the Watergate

scandal had resulted in the in-

dictment of 19 people, among

them two cabinet secretaries

and many of Mr. Nixon's

closest advisers. Mr. Nixon

himself had been named an

"unindicted co-conspirator"

by a special prosecutor for his

role in the Watergate cover-

One of the controlling

24 percent in August 1974.

factors is if there is an at-

mosphere" conducive to im-

peachment, said former Rep-

resentative M. Caldwell

Butler, a Virginia Republican

who served on the Judiciary

Committee in 1974. "That's

just not the circumstance. Un-

til the American people get

stirred up like they were in

1974, there should be no dis-

cussion of impeachment."

Some lawmakers noted

about the alleged affair.

Mr. Convers said.

impeachment inquiry

case against Mr. Clinton.

would begin.

Finally, say House law-

impeachable offenses.

Even if the information ex-

substantial and credible in-

House members question

If a majority of the Judiparties agree the evidence ciary Committee voted in fa-will have to be much stronger vor of articles of impeachvor of articles of impeachment, the full House would makers can seriously contem- act as a grand jury and, by a plate removing a popular simple majority vote, could pass the case to the Senate for trial. It takes a two-thirds vote whether Kenneth Starr, the in- of the Senate to remove the president from office. Mr. Nixon resigned in 1974 before his case left the House. Mr. Hyde's office said he

quietly discussed with Mr. Gingrich last week the financing of an impeachment inquiry, and Mr. Hyde said, "We would have to augment our staff considerably.

But even as the two make possible affair with the these preliminary preparaformer White House intern tions. Republicans appear to Monica Lewinsky could rise have raised the threshold for an inquiry. Last week Mr. Gingrich told a closed meeting of Republicans that he would demand that Mr. Starr turn over all the evidence he had gathered in more than three years of investigating the Clinton administration before public opinion as it will on the the House would contemplate an impeachment inquiry.

People familiar with Mr. Gingrich's thinking acknowledged that his remark was intended to suggest to Mr. Starr that his evidence needed to be overwhelming enough to warrant the abandonment of a probe that has involved everything from Arkansas financial scandals to the White House travel office.

Democrats, meanwhile, suggest that Mr. Starr's evidence is so weak that he wants to "punt to Congress" rather than admit he has no case.

"Starr dumps it on the strate high levels of popularity committee, then says Hyde and Gingrich didn't have the guts to go ahead with it," one Democratic source said in conjecture. Such a scenario, Republi-

cans say, will not happen. "If this boils down to a 'he said, she said' problem, Henry Hyde is not likely to take it. one Republican said. "It's his job to determine what laws were broken and whether they meet the threshold of that Mr. Clinton's popularity peachable offenses."

Both the House Republicans and Democrats are holdwhen the Judiciary Commit- ing annual retreats this week. tee opened an impeachment and the Democrats in particment. The House minority leader, Richard Gephardt of Missouri, said any move by the Judiciary Committee "would

stop everything in its tracks." Speaking of Mr. Hyde, Representative Den Bentsen, Democrat of Texas, said: "Up to this point, he has been one to withhold judgment, and properly so. The Republican pot is boiling and some up. His approval rating was at of their members are eager to exploit these allegations."

But not Mr. Hyde. He has said he wanted 'precise evidence' of a 'substantial nature," and unlike Mr. Gingrich was not interested in obtaining three years' worth of Mr. Starr's investigation documents.

One of the best ways to hide things," he said, is to send too much.

Mr. Hyde and other Republicans said that for any inquiry Mr. Starr has made clear to have credibility, they would that should he come across evidence of impeachable of-



O. J. Simpson, a resident of Brentwood, California, driving past the home of Monica Lewinsky's father. Ms. Lewinsky's visit has brought on a media blitz not seen since the former football star's murder trial.

Counsel for Jones's Judge: Step Down

LITTLE ROCK, Arkansas' --- The judge in the Paula Jones sexual harassment lawsuit should consider stepping down from the case if her husband's involvement violated judicial standards, according to a legal scholar.
Judge Susan Webber Wright of U.S.

District Court used portions of a memo written by her husband, Robert Wright, in her decision to delay the case until after President Bill Clinton leaves office. She also allowed her husband to sit in

on a private meeting with lawyers after the Supreme Court overturned the rul-

Legal scholars said Mr. Wright's involvement was odd at best and might have violated judicial canons that pro-

hibit judges from discussing pending cases with family members.

It gives the impression that this individual is part of the decision-making process," said Carl Bogus, a law professor who teaches professional responsibility at Roger Williams University in Bristol, Rhode Island.

'The judge will have to consider whether this creates a sufficient appearance of impropriety that would compel her to consider recusing herself," Mr. Bogus said.

Kathleen Clark, professor of political and legal ethics at Washington University School of Law in St. Louis, said that "a judge consulting someone other than the parties and the judge's law clerk and making a decision is odd," but that

talk of the judge's stepping down was unfounded.

"I wouldn't be talking about recusal over this. It seems a little extreme," she said, adding that she did not think Mr. Wright served his wife well by making those comments.

The Washington Post reported Mr. Wright's involvement in the Jones' case on Monday.

Mr. Wright, a law professor at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, said he had made suggestions about pending cases, including Mrs. Jones' suit against Mr. Clinton, but he denied helping his wife make decisions. I don't decide my wife's cases," he

said. "I never have. I don't know how

POLITICAL NOTES

Independent Inquiry on Babbitt

WASHINGTON — Top Justice Department officials have formally recommended that Attorney General Janet Reno seek an independent prosecutor to investigate Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt's role in a decision to kill an Indian casino project in Wisconsin, law enforcement

In a formal memorandum, Ms. Reno's advisers said that their preliminary inquiries could not resolve whether Mr. Babbitt told the truth in statements to lawmakers about his role in the casino deal.

Officials said Monday that Ms. Reno was likely to accept her aides' advice by Wednesday, the deadline for seeking an outside counsel on this issue.

The Babbitt case raises the specter of another farreaching investigation because its roots are linked to political fund-raising, with casino-deal opponents pouring hundreds of thousands of dollars into Democratic

Although Mr. Babbitt has repeatedly said that he played no role in a departmental decision to deny a permit for the casino, a lawyer involved in the casino deal said Mr. Babbitt had told him of a concerted White House lobbying effort to thwart the project.

Senate Weighs Ban on Cloning

NEW YORK - The U.S. Senate was considering bills on Tuesday to ban the cloning of human beings. In an unusual step, the bills were sent directly to the Senate floor, bypassing committee hearings. The issues are complex and go deeper than the simple question of to

cione or not to clone. A bill proposed by Senators Christopher Bond of Missouri and Bill Frist of Tennessee, both Republicans, would in essence ban the technology of cloning as applied to humans. The Democrats Dianne Feinstein and Edward Kennedy, on the other hand, target the outcome rather than the technology, proposing in their bill to prohibit creating a human by inserting a cloned embryo in a

Many scientific organizations and the biotechnology industry would prefer to see no legislation. Many university biologists say they oppose the Bond-Frist bill, which they fear would curtail several promising lines of

Quote/Unquote

Janet Yellen, the chairman of the White House's Council of Economic Advisers, on the Clinton administration's citing statistics that show record high income for black families in 1996 and a drop in the poverty rate for black families to a record low: "Such developments raise hope for renewed and sustained progress toward economic equality."

Lawyers See Legal Hand Behind Lewinsky 'Talking Points'

By Joan Biskupic Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON -- It takes one to know one. Which may explain why several lawyers, asked to analyze the "talking points" doc-ument that the former White House intern Monica Lewinsky supposedly gave to her col-league, Linda Tripp, concluded that the document may have a lawyer's hand behind it

The three-page document is unlikely to have actually been written by a lawyer, according to several legal experts. Rather, some raised the possibility that Ms. Lewinsky may have spoken with a lawyer and then drafted inquiry against Richard Nix- ular appeared anxious to put to the document herself based on those conon in 1974, the last time the rest any hasty rush to impeach versations.

and colloquial that encourages Ms. Tripp to retract public statements she had made and possibly distort the truth. It is illegal for lawyers to encourage witnesses to lie, and it is unlikely, the legal specialists said, that any lawver would have put such suggestions in writing - if he or she would have made them

Still, the document, a copy of which was obtained by The Washington Post, provides a sten-by-step guide that Ms. Tripp has claimed she was being asked to follow when she testified in the Paula Jones sexual misconduct case against the president.

The "talking points" could become a key piece of evidence if the independent counsel,

The result is a strange mixture of the legal

Away From Politics

 A man who fatally shot three people in a drug-induced rampage was put to death by lethal injection Monday in Huntsville, Texas. Steven Renfro, 40, voluntarily headed to the death chamber on a conviction less than 10 months old. His death received far less attention than Karla Faye Tucker's execution last week.

• Pregnant women in their first trimester who drink five or more glasses of cold tap water daily may be at higher risk of miscarriage, according to a study of California chlorinated drinking water. The heightened risk is linked to exposure to a contaminant found in chlorinated water in a majority of U.S. municipal water systems. The chemical - trihalomethane - forms when • An American Airlines jet missed a runchlorine reacts with acids from plant ma-

• The U.S. Army's former top enlisted wife kept a vigil by the bed of their dying landed.

son, according to testimony by the soldier, Christine Fetrow. Ms. Fetrow, the first of six accusers to testify at a court-martial in Fort Belvoir, Virginia, said that Mr. McKinney, 47, had warned her that he was "a powerful man that makes things happen, good and bad."

 Fifty taxis in New York City will be equipped with cellular phones by April so drivers can report crimes, fires or accidents. The program "gives us the opportunity to have many more eyes and ears out there, said the city police commissioner, Howard Safir. "What we want them to do is just report - not do anything."

way when it landed at O'Hare International Airport in Chicago on Monday, heavily damaging the plane. None of the 121 people aboard the Boeing 727 was hurt, although a man, Gene Mckinney, allegedly asked a firefighter helping evacuate passengers cut young female soldier for "comfort" as his head. Fog was dense when the plane

Kenneth Starr, tries to indict Ms. Lewinsky or anyone else on charges of obstructing justice. Mr. Start is investigating whether Ms. Lew-insky or anyone on President Bill Clinton's legal team urged Ms. Tripp to lie, or whether Ms. Lewinsky herself has been pressured to disguise the true nature of her relationship with Mr. Clinton.

At one point in the document, Ms. Lewinsky appears to suggest now Ms. Tripp can change earlier accounts she has told a reporter regarding Kathleen Willey, a White House aide whom Ms. Tripp had asserted she saw leaving the Oval Office with her blouse untucked and lipstick smeared after an encounter with Mr. Clinton.

In the "points to make in affidavit," Ms. Tripp is encouraged not to "contradict" Mr. Clinton's version of events and to say that 'you now do not believe that what she claimed happened really happened" and that 'you now find it completely plausible that she herself smeared her lipstick, untucked her blouse, etc.

Toward the end of the document, it says: You want to provide an affidavit laying out all of the facts in lieu of a deposition. You want Bennett's people to see your affidavit before it's signed." That apparently is a reference to Mr. Clinton's lawyer, Robert Bennett. Neither Mr. Bennett nor Ms. Lewinsky's lawyers

would comment on the "talking points." Kathleen Clark, a professor of legal ethics at Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri, said Monday, "This document raises the question of how much of our legal process is about getting to the truth and how much of it is about shaping what will be called the truth at trial."

Ms. Clark said the sentiment behind the document seemed traceable to lawyers. She pointed to the detailed and well-developed story line that could help Ms. Tripp explain why she came to suspect Mrs. Willey and consequently change her own version of

Some lawyers said they found it difficult to believe that Ms. Lewinsky, a 24-year-old without legal experience, could have drafted what appears to be a map for navigating a difficult legal proceeding. The document advises, "Your deposition should include enough information to satisfy their questioning.

Such remarks, some lawyers said, reflect more a tone of legal strategizing than talk between two friends. Besides, one noted, why does Ms. Lewinsky have a personal interest in changing the story relating to Mrs. Willey? The document is a strange blend of savvy

and silly. Halfway through, the point of view changes, as if the first part is Ms. Lewinsky's dictates to Ms. Tripp and the second part is Ms. Tripp talking to herself, on the same issues. At one point it appears that Ms. Tripp is

being urged to say that Ms. Lewinsky 'turned out to be this huge liar" who "left the WH because she was stalking the P or something like that.' That is not exactly lawyerly language, but

the description nonetheless mirrors the account some White House aides have offered in explaining why Ms. Lewinsky was transferred from the White House to the Pentagon. John McCormick, who specializes in

white-collar criminal work, said he doubted that a lawyer would be foolish enough actually to put such comments in writing. The language, he said, "suggests someone

is asking a witness to change an account or shape a recollection." He added, "That could expose the client and potentially the lawyer to more legal problems down the road." While lawyers commonly coach wit-

nesses, there is a line between guiding a witness to present events in the best light to a client and urging someone to misstate the truth, which is unethical and illegal. "It's very routine for lawyers to go over

testimony with witnesses. It would be maipractice not to do it," said Stephen Schulhofer, a University of Chicago criminal law professor. "And it works from both sides; prosecutors, too, do this all the time."

He added, "But you always want your witness to tell the truth.

Insurers Urge Redesign of Sport Utility Vehicles

By Keith Bradsher New York Times Service

DETROIT — The auto in- current design problems. surance industry has urged carmakers to redesign sport mility vehicles and pickup trucks after concluding that raised the risk of death for othtion for their own occupants.

"The very high death rates for occupants of other pickups than for cars. suggest that making future-model pickups and utility time they emphasized that vehicles more crash compatible, especially in crashes with cars, should be a priority," said Brian O'Neill, president of the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety. which is bankrolled by most of the country's auto insurers times the rate for cars. and speaks for the industry on

This is the first time the design of a class of passenger the same weight. The largest light trucks. But the existence

recommend specific design changes; it only identified

As evidence that design changes should be made, the rate. Higher death rates for institute Monday sent automakers a statistical study. The reflect that they are often these so-called light tracks study found that the death rate driven by young men on highin accidents for people both er road users, while providing inside and outside the vehicle roads, where fatal accidents little if any additional protec- was 17 percent higher for are more common per vehicle sport utility vehicles than for than in cities, Mr. O'Neill cars and 47 percent higher for

group. The study found that sport utility vehicles killed occupants of other vehicles at nearly double the rate per mil- justments were made. lion vehicles that cars did, while the rate for pickups was. more than two and a half

he added. The institute did not rates than the largest cars, which weigh less. No doubt the way vehicles

pickups, for example, partly speed, two-lane country said. On the other hand, all but the smallest sport utility as seat belt use rose and vehicles colliding with The insurers had not prevehicles are typically driven drunken driving declined.

The insurers had not prevehicles are typically driven drunken driving declined. O'Neill said the institute had been unable to find a reliable way to adjust the figures for such differences, so no ad-

> Because sport utility vehicles and pickup trucks make up less than a third of the vehicles on the road, and What is more, occupants of because many people die in pickups and sport utility single-vehicle accidents, the vehicles had higher death majority of deaths in vehicle rates than occupants of cars of accidents do not involve these

Barry Felrice, the regulatory affairs director of the head of the National Highway Washington-based American Traffic Safety Administraare driven, as well as their . Automobile Manufacturers tion, said that he hoped the design, affects their accident Association, said some types auto industry would look for of vehicles may inflict more ways to make light trucks damage on cars. But he said more research was needed to during crashes, and he warned changes should be made.

Ford Motor Co. said the safety of cars was steadily improving as newer models carried more safety features and

more compatible with cars determine what, if any, design that the American public would demand new safety regulations if the automakers did nothing. "My hope is that the increased recognition of compatibility problems will lead to design changes in the marketplace," he said.

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THE WORLD'S DAILY NEWSPAPER

Compiled by Our Staff From Disparke:

BEUING - An exiled Chinese activist party. who traveled covertly to China to meet with other dissidents has been deported to the United States, heading off a potential human-rights outcry from overseas.

At the same time, China released three Chinese dissidents held in connection with the secret visit of the 50-year-old dissident, Wang Bingzhang.
Mr. Wang's swift expulsion with no

trial --- or even any public condemnation of his political activities - appeared to

An important figure in China's op-position movement, Mr. Wang ended his a false name to get a visa. exile of nearly two decades last month. sneaking into China under an alias to late 1970s and moved to the United around China to organize opposition to

Captured by the police on Friday in the eastern city of Bengbu, Mr. Wang was put on a Los Angeles-bound plane from Shanghai on Monday, according to Bill Palmer, spokesman for the U.S. Embassy in Beijing.

He said the Chinese authorities did not inform the embassy that Mr. Wang had been deported until Tuesday, hours after the dissident had arrived in California. "All of my family members are de-

be part of Beijing's new strategy to rid itself of opponents by sending them abroad with a minimum of fuss.

Diplomats said the move reflected a further warming of ties between China and the United States that were long bedeviled by clashes over Beijing's treatment of dissent.

An important figure in China's opposition movement Mr. Wang ended his parents live in Moutreal.

A Chinese Foreign Ministry spokestman, Zhu Bangzao, said Mr. Wang was held for questioning and deported because he entered China illegally by using a false name to get a visa.

Mr. Wang left China for Canada in the

up a magazine, China Spring, and an of a group due to be formally launched exile group, the Chinese Alliance for this mouth.

Mr. Wang, who was staying in Los Angeles with a friend, was unrepentant on Tuesday. He said a social explosion was just around the corner in China and Chinese political exiles had a duty to prepare for the collapse of commun-

'China is like a boil," he said by telephone. "On the outside the skin issmooth, but on the inside it is full of

"Something big will happen in China in the next few years. If we don't come back now to make preparations for the founding of a new state, the democratic movement will lose another opportu-

Mr. Wang said he had stolen across the Chinese border from Macau on Jan. 23 under an alias. He had traveled

help dissidents form an opposition States a few years later. In 1982, he set the Communist Party under the banner into China in 1995 to gather evidence up a magazine, China Spring, and an of a group due to be formally launched about penal colonies. Mr. Wu was ex-

He said the proposed Justice Party hoped to attract government officials, entrepreneurs and workers — but not dissidents because they were under surveillance.

Referring to his sudden release by the Chinese authorities, he said, "Their swift decision could be a sign that the Communist Party is adopting new ways

and becoming more open."
Mr. Wang said that before he was hustled aboard the flight to Los Angeles, the police read a statement accusing him of trying to overthrow the government.
"I wasn't surprised by my release."
he said. "They had two choices — either give me a harsh sentence or quickly get

rid of this hot potato." Beijing's low-key handling of Mr. Wang's case contrasted with its public fury when the U.S.-based dissident

pelled, but only after a court had con-

victed him of spying and sentenced him to 15 years in jail.

Mr. Zhu, the Foreign Ministry spokesman, in a carefully worded statement focused only on Mr. Wang's use of most focused only on Mr. Wang's new line. an alias to enter China and said nothing of his political activities.

"Wang Bingzhang used a fake name to fraudulently obtain a visa to illegally cross the border," Mr. Zhu said 'China's police organs sent him away under relevant Chinese immigration laws after investigation.'

Meanwhile, three U.S. religious leaders picked by President Bill Clinton began a high-profile visit to China to look into

religious freedom.

Diplomats said Beijing was keen to avoid upsetting their visit.

Washington responded with restraint to Mr. Wang's detention, although it Harry Wu was caught trying to sneak expressed concern.

Aftershock Jolts Afghan Relief Effort

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Mary Service

RUSTAK, Afghanistan — A strong aftershock struck northeastern Afghanistan on Tuesday, leveling villages already damaged in the earthquake that struck Feb. 4 and isolating new victims from re-lief workers struggling to reach the

snowbound region.

Snow blanketed the only nearby airstrip, making flights impossible and slowing relief convoys. UN trucks carrying thousands of pounds of blashess. of blankets, plastic sheeting and high protein biscuits struggled to navigate damaged roads. Rescuers on donkeys and in jeeps

first reached the area Monday with small amounts of desperately needed aid Aid agencies, mean-while, raised their death toll estimate to more than 3,000. Afghan officials put the number closer to 5,000. Afghanistan's ambassador to In-

dia, Masood Khalili, said a strong aftershock shook the region Tuesday morning, killing at least 11 more people and injuring eight. This one destroyed more vil-

lages, including two that were not affected before," said the ambassador, who is loyal to the military alliance that controls northern Af-

Fog, snow, civil war and airstrips of poor quality have hampered aid efforts since the first reports of the carthquake emerged Friday.

Survivors continued to flee toward flatlands to the south, apparently fearing more aftershocks. Many told stories of whole families lost.

Patients lay in darkness Monday on a health clinic's dirt floor, the

clinic's power had gone out.
Physicians from Doctors Without Borders, the first foreign aid agency to reach the area, erected hospital tents to expand the number of beds for injured villagers. They reported a shortage of clean water, prompting fears that disease could cause more deaths.

There were fears that Afghanistan's civil war would begin to disrupt relief efforts. On Saturday, the Taleban Islamic Army, which controls 85 percent of Afghanistan, announced a unilateral three-day cease-fire to ease relief efforts.

China Tie Alleged in Clinton Funding

Senate Committee Links Riadys to a Beijing Intelligence Agency

By Bob Woodward

WASHINGTON - Mochtar Riady and his son, James, who control the Lippo Group conglomerate based in Indonesia and have been friends and supporters of President Bill Clinton since he long-term relationship with a Chinese the Chinese government intelligence agency," according to the Officials said that much Senate committee that investigated cam-

paign finance abuses last year. The unclassified final draft of the comclassified intelligence information supplied by both the CIA and the FBI that was not revealed during several months of public committee hearings last year, Chinese intelligence as appearing to be

By Ruth Marcus

Washington Post Service

Buddhist temple in April 1996 "was

presidential campaign.

federal campaign laws."

WASHINGTON - Vice President

Fund Report Targets Gore

Al Gore "was well aware" that a pares for the 2000 presidential race.

Democratic Party event at a California In support of its conclusion, the

designed to raise money for his Gore's long knowledge of the event's

party," according to a final draft of the organizers — Maria Hsia, a Los

report by Senate Republicans inves- Angeles immigration consultant, and

tigating fund-raising abuses in the last John Huang, a former Democratic Na-

The draft report opens with the as-raisers, memos to Mr. Gore from the

sertion that President Bill Clinton, Mr. White House deputy chief of staff at

Gore and their top aides conducted a the time, Harold Ickes, detailing the

ful effort before the 1996 election "to in, and internal White House e-mails

But the pointed criticism of Mr. Christopher Lehane, dismissed the re-Gore's "lack of candor" about the port as a "partisan cut-and-paste

Buddhist temple event is one of the job," saying that the Republicans ig-

few specific allegations directed at top nored evidence that Mr. Gore did not

Clinton administration officials in the know people were being asked to give

Senate Governmental Affairs Com- Hsia that appeared to contemplate two

mittee is the product of 32 days of separate events — a fund-raising

hearings, led by Senator Fred lunch after which Mr. Gore would go Thompson, Republican of Tennessee, to the temple for a rally — and to Mr.

into fund-raising abuses. Although the Gore's speech, which included none

report does not appear to break ground of the usual thanks for donations that

in the investigation of 1996 campaign would take place at a fund-raiser.

violate the letter and spirit of existing referring to the "fund-raiser."

executive branch sources said Monday. "based on business interests," with the the nature of the relationship between international business opportunities "in the Riadys and Chinese intelligence. No exchange for large sums of money and one, including the committee, has alleged that Mr. Clinton or his senior White House or campaign aides were aware of any improper connection that was governor of Arkansas, "have had a the Riadys or others may have had with

Officials said that much of the specific the subject of bitter dispute between the intelligence information on which the report's conclusions are based was withheld from the document to protect mittee's report was drawn from highly sources and methods used to gather it. The report itself says that information on

the Riadys was "recently acquired." It describes their relationship with

fund-raising, its conclusions -

offered in sometimes partisan lan-

guage - are certain to fuel Repub-

lican attacks on Mr. Gore as he pre-

Republican report points to Mr.

tional Committee official - as fund-

A vice presidential spokesman,

in order to attend the luncheon. Mr.

Lehane pointed to a letter from Ms.

The report contains few specifics on Riadys obtaining Chinese assistance for

As of two weeks ago, the 13-page report on the Chinese connection - part of a much larger document compiled by the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee after last year's hearings -- was committee and the ClA and the FBI, which feared it would compromise intelligence-gathering.

The report describes what it calls "strong circumstantial evidence" that six individuals with strong ties to the Chinese, including the Riadys, may have funneled foreign money into political campaigns during the 1996 U.S. election cycle. Of the six, it singles out Maria Hsia, a California immigration consultant and longtime Democratic fund-raiser, as "an agent of the Chinese government," although it cites no specific actions taken in support of this alleged role.

Ms. Hsia's lawyer, Nancy Luque, angrily denied Monday night that Ms. Hsia was a Chinese agent or participated in

any campaign fund-raising illegalities.

When the Senate committee began its hearings on the overall issue of alleged campaign fund-raising abuse of alleged its chairman. its chairman, Senator Fred Thompson. Republican of Tennessee, said that the panel "believes that high-level Chinese government officials crafted a plan to increase influence over the U.S. political process." But by the time the hearings ended on Oct. 31, little evidence of such a plan had been publicly produced.

mittee report is noticeably partisan in nature and emphasizes the views of the committee's Republican majority committee Democrats wrote their own competing draft chapters - the document concerning the Chinese connection appears understated and studiously \$130,000 in political contributions to

nonpartisan.

Although it gives few details about Ms. Hsia, the report says, "The Committee has learned that Hsia has been an agent of the Chinese government, that she acted knowingly in support of it, and that she has attempted to conceal her relationship with the Chinese government. The committee has also learned that Hsia has worked in direct support of



Mochtar Riady and his son James, chairman and deputy chairman of the Lippo Group, were named in a Senate report on Democratic fund-raising.

a PRC diplomatic post in the U.S.." a the United States from at least as early as reference to the People's Republic of

The report does not attempt to tie any specific Hsia fund-raising activities to ship to the Vice President of the United

tee qocument, which runs some 1,500 pages, details her connection with influence U.S. politics during the Clinthe Hsi Lai Buddhist Temple in ton administration." Hacienda Heights, California. Using temple monastic personnel as straw donors, the larger report alleges, Ms. Democrats beginning in 1993, including thousands of dollars from a temple event attended by Vice President Al Gore in the early spring of 1996.

The overall report notes that "any link between Hsia and PRC intelligence would raise new questions about Hsia's involvement in funneling money from the Hsi Lai Temple to a number of both guilty to charges of obstruction of justice local and national political candidates in

1993 through the presidential election of 1996. Were such alleged intelligence reports to be true, Hsia's long relation-States would raise grave new questions A lengthy portion of the overall com- about the extent to which Chinese in-

Three other individuals are named in the report, although few details are provided in support of its conclusions about them.

They are Ted Sioeng, a former Cali-fornia businessman; John Huang, who has been a focus of public attention in the campaign finance controversy since the beginning, and Yah Lin Trie, a Little Rock friend of Mr. Clinton who, on Jan. 28, became the first person indicted as part of the Justice Department investigation. Last week, he pleaded not

and campaign finance violations.

Run High as Patrols

Stem Food Rioting

JAKARTA — Food riots in eastern

Indonesia have died down after patrols

by army troops and an overnight curfew.

but the area remains tense, residents and

Hundreds of people attacked shops owned by ethnic Chinese in the town of

Ende on the eastern island of Flores on

Sunday and set them on fire after reports

curfew was imposed to restore calm.

Police Sergeant Almani Umar said by telephone that 15 to 20 ethnic Chinese

families were still taking refuge in police

stations and a military camp Tuesday.

The violence was the latest upsurge of social unrest in Indonesia, which has

been hit by its worst economic crisis in

decades. Prices of essential goods, in-

cluding rice, cooking oil and milk, have

risen and unemployment is likely to

surge as companies lay off workers.

The army was called out, and a night

the police said Tuesday.

that rice was being rationed.

BRIEFLY

Bangladesh Rebels End 25-Year Fight

KHAGRACHHARI, Bangladesh — Tribal Shanti Bahini guer-rillas fighting for autonomy in the Chittagong Hill Tracts formally surrendered on Tuesday, ending a 25year insurgency that has claimed more than 8,500 lives.

Officials said the rebels were disarmed by the Bangladesh Army after arriving at heavily guarded camps on Monday, ahead of their

They gave up more than 450 large weapons, then marched into the Khagrachhari stadium, the surrender venue.

Political Ads Gone In the Philippines

MANILA - Political ads disappeared from Philippine newspapers and television stations Tuesday, the start of the official campaign for May national elec-tions, despite pleas from lesserknown candidates who say they will be unable to reach voters.

A ban on political advertising during campaigns was introduced in 1987 in an effort to level the playing field between wealthy and poor candidates. But critics say the prohibition benefits mainly candidates who already have wide name recognition, such as incumbents and movie and TV stars who have entered politics.

U.S. and Manila Sign Military Pact

MANILA — The Philippines and the United States signed an agreement Tuesday to allow a resumption of long-postponed joint military ex-

The pact, which must be ratified by the Philippine Senate and approvides certain legal protections for U.S. military personnel in future exercises in the Philippines.

Under the agreement, the United States the installation.

States has jurisdiction over U.S. troops who commit crimes while on duty. Off-duty personnel would be subject to Philippine law. (AP)

Fires in Indonesia

JAKARTA — Park rangers and Indonesian soldiers fought raging forest fires in a national park Tuesday as orangutans and other animals fled the blazes.

The fires, made worse by a long drought, have raised fears that a choking smog that shrouded parts of Southeast Asia for months last year could return. (AP) could return.

POOL: Group of Seven Considers \$10 Billion in Trade Insurance to Aid Asian Companies Indonesia Tensions the private sector companies in Korea, held in Europe in the next two weeks. On the Export-Import Bank would approve Thailand and Indonesia to get what they Wednesday, officials from Hermes, the special insurance of about \$1 billion

Continued from Page 1

1,500-page draft report.
The draft by Republicans on the

which normally compete with one another, actually get together and cooperate like this in order to deal with an emergency, namely the situation in Asia." The move, which has the backing of

U.S. Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin, is being coordinated with Asian governments and the International Monetary Fund. Mr. Harmon, 62, who took over the Eximbank in July, is a veteran Wall Street deal maker who previously headed Schroder Wertheim & Co., a New York investment bank.

"Many people are crying out for structural reform and a new architecture for world fulancial markets in order to meet future crises," Mr. Harmon said.

"It is important to foster cooperation among the various G-7 export credit agencies so that we can protect our own export credits and at the same time help

Thailand and Indonesia to get what they need to keep producing."

Mr. Harmon said the special insur-

ance plan "is a multilateral G-7 effort; and not a U.S. plan." He said that during his talks this week he found "that our European friends offered good ideas and we all believe this can be an innovative approach which can work well."

Mr. Harmon said that if French, British, German, Japanese, Italian and Canadian export credit agencies join the initiative, the total pool of insurance could be "several billion dollars and perhaps around \$10 billion in all." Japan's export credit agency has

already signaled its willingness to join in the multilateral initiative, while some European members of the G-7 have also told Mr. Harmon they are inclined to be supportive, and will study the proposal. Further G-7 meetings are set to be

export credit arm of the German government, will be in Washington to dis-

Mr. Harmon last month met with President-elect Kim Dae Jung of South Korea and with President Suharto of Indonesia. 'I was very impressed with Mr. Kirn, and it was because of my feelings that Korea is on the right track that I concluded we should dramatically increase our insurance program," he said.

"We are watching Indonesia closely," he added, "and we are confident that in the long-term it will even-tually turn around. There has been an overreaction in the markets there.'

He also said the G-7 might ask the governments of South Korea, Thailand and Indonesia to provide a matching cover for the G-7 insurance. Under one scenario being discussed,

each for Korea, Thailand, and Indonesia. The U.S. agency's board last week approved at least \$750 million of such short-term insurance for South Korea. Of the Export-Import Bank's total of

\$55 billion in outstanding loans and loan guarantees, about \$18 billion is linked to sales in Asia, and about \$9 billion concerns the most troubled economies. This includes \$3.8 billion of guarantees for exports to Indonesia, \$1.6 billion to Korea, \$800 million to Thailand and

\$2.8 billion to the Philippines. Separately, G-7 officials denied a Japanese press report that finance ministers from the G-7 countries were planning to discuss a foreign-exchange stabilization fund for Indonesia when they meet Feb. 21 in London. But a G-7 official who asked not to be named said: 'We're not aware of this as an agenda item.'

ASIANS: Indonesia's Neighbors Fear Refugee Wave



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Continued from Page 1

Malaysia and Singapore also remembered the period of armed "confrontation" between Indonesia and the Malaysian Federation in 1963 to 1965. when they almost went to war with Jakarta. "That conflict reflected an internal turmoil in Indonesia," the institute added.

Singapore was then part of the federation and Indonesia's confrontation policy only ended after Mr. Suharto took power from Sukarno, the country's nationalistic founding president. Mr. Suharto, then a general, moved in after what the army said was an abortive coup that it blamed on the Indonesian Communist Party, which is now banned. The party had close ties with Beijing at the time. Hundreds of thousands of people, including

many Chinese, died in a subsequent anti-Communist pogrom with ethnic undertones. In an earlier crackdown on the Chinese in Indonesia in the 1950s, hundreds of thousands were forced to return

On both occasions, Beijing sent ships to pick them up in what was seen as a gesture of solidarity with a large overseas Chinese community.

About 7 million Chinese live in Indonesia, a nation of 200 million. Many are shopkeepers, traders and businessmen. Some have become very wealthy, to the point where the Chinese as a group

Chinese. Most of the rest are Malays and Indians.

Here that most of its members are guarders of Singapore's population of 3 million are wealthy, to the point where the Chinese as a group

Chinese. Most of the rest are Malays and Indians.

Muslim country.

are reputed to control about 70 percent of corporate wealth, although they make up only 3 percent of the population.

Some analysts say they think that another anti-Chinese pogrom in Indonesia would prompt Beijing to act again in similar protective fashion. even though its official policy toward overseas Chinese has changed in recent years to one which treats them as citizens of the countries in which they reside rather than of China.

China might feel compelled to deploy her navy in Indonesian territorial waters in order to collect refugees and pressure Indonesia's leadership into restraining anti-Chinese violence," said David Hale, economist at the Zurich Insurance Group in Chicago. "The possibility of China having to use naval forces to protect the overseas Chinese minority of Indonesia would represent a major threat to

Such a move by Beijing would heighten suspicions about the role and loyalties of the economically influential and close-knit ethnic Chinese communities living in other countries of Analysts said that it would place Singapore - the only state with a Chinese majority in the region — in a particularly invidious position. More than three

Shops in eastern and central Java and on the islands of Celebes, Flores and Sulawesi have been looted or burned down by mobs in a series of incidents in recent weeks. The government has said about 10 percent of the work force of 90 million people will be out of jobs by the end of this year because of the economic crisis.

Analysts say the number could be much higher. In Ende, a town of about 70,000 people, residents and the police said no shops were open because of the violence

Sunday.
"The situation is safe and under control," said a police sergeant, Almani Umar, adding that all shops there are owned by ethnic Chinese.

The Chinese minority controls Indonesia's retail trade and has often been the target of mob violence. It is resented for its economic domination and for the fact that most of its members are

Lein Munich Raid

Aftershock Jolts Afghan Relief Effort

2 Shootings

At German

Borders Kill

GOERLITZ, Germany - A Swiss

customs officer and three German ones

were killed in two separate shootings

Tuesday on the German borders with

Poland and Switzerland, the police said.

A man believed to be from Kazakh-

stan or Ukraine shot and killed two

German officers on a crowded bus after

grabbing a pistol from the holster of one

of the agents during a routine inspection

The incident, on a highway near Go-

About seven hours later a man who

the police said was Italian shot and killed a German customs agent and his

Swiss counterpart at a remote border crossing in southern Germany, near

Police sources said the Italian man,

who was driving a Swiss-registered car,

shot the guards as he drove into Germany.

He drove a short way past the border before shooting himself in the head.

was reported to be in a critical con-

The police said they did not know the motives for either shooting. The two incidents were more than 750 kilome-

whose ministry oversees the customs agency. "This was senseless violence

against customs officials that we

The shooting at the Polish-German

The suspected assailant was captured

border crossing near Goerlitz, about 250

kilometers southeast of Berlin, also

after smashing through a side window of

"The suspect injured himself and was taken to hospital, where he is under

arrest," said Stephan Enger, a spokes-man for the Goerlitz police. "He can't

be interrogated yet. We have not yet been able to determine the motive."

sidered one of the most dangerous of Germany's nine frontiers. Refugees from around the world see it as a gateway to

the prosperous European Union states.

There is considerable smuggling, of drugs and untaxed cigarettes as well as

refugees, across a border that is about 350 kilometers long and stretches along

extremely high," said Heinz Schulze, chairman of the German association of customs officials. "The readiness to

Russia, Ukraine, Poland and Latvia.

PARIS - Maurice Schumann, 86, the

London-based radio voice of the French

Resistance in World War II and later a

politician, foreign minister and ardent defender of French culture, died Tues-

Mr. Schumann was a deputy and then

senator for nearly five decades and held

numerous ministerial posts. But long

ment led by General de Gaulle.

Mr. Schumann was the main speaker on a program from London called "Les

Français Parlent aux Français" (The

French Speak to the French). His de-

nunciations of Nazi collaborators more

than once led to them being killed by

resistance fighters, who received eso-

teric coded orders such as "The carrots

Police in Munich Raid

5 Scientology Offices

are cooked" or "Franklin is arriving"

over the same program.

prosecutors said.

tion of insulting material.

day in the Invalides military hospital.

the Oder and Neisse rivers.

resort to violence is high."

The German-Polish border is con-

wounded two passengers on the bus.

haven't seen in the last 25 years."

This is a dark day for customs," said Finance Minister Theo Waigel,

The suspect was taken to hospital and

erlitz, was one of the worst of its kind in

on the Polish-German border.

postwar German history.

Lake Constance.

ters (450 miles) apart.

4 Officers

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Show blankered the only many wiship, making flights imposed and slowing relief convoys [7] the ke converge thousands of pome of blankers, pilette sheeting at high protein bracaits struggled to navigate damaged roads.

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BRIEFLY

Bungladesh Rebel End 25-Year Fight

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Political Ads Gone In the Philippines

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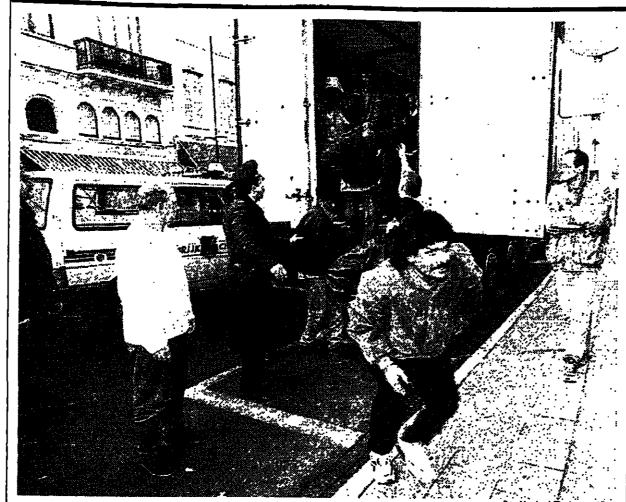
Fires in Indonesia officials had cooperated with the raids on H sun five of its offices. A Scientology spokesman said the raids had been directed at individual members rather than the organization itself. He dismissed the police action as "ab-The state of the s

Armenian Released

YEREVAN, Armenia — An opposition out of jail to campaign.

(Reuters)

EUROPE



A VERY OFFICIAL WELCOME IN BELGIUM -- The police taking 33 illegal immigrants into custody Tuesday in Ostend after a driver found the Sri Lankans and Albanians in the back of his French truck. The 30 men, a woman and two children said they were trying to get to Britain by ferry from the North Sea port.

Clinton Presses Senate On NATO Expansion

By Steven Erlanger New York Times Service

WASHINGTON - Secretary of State Madeleine Albright has begun the final push for Senate approval of NATO expansion, warning senators not to complicate the effort by trying to delay a possible second round of expansion.

On Wednesday, President Bill Clinton will submit documents on the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's planned expansion to the Senate for approval, trying to secure one of his major foreign-policy goals.
While the Senate is expected to vote

in March to approve adding three members to NATO - Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic - some of its members want to delay a second round of expansion that is planned to incorporate countries such as Romania, which France favors admitting to the alliance,

and Slovenia, which Italy supports. "This administration opposes any effort in the Senate to mandate a pause in the process of NATO enlargement,' Mrs. Albright said here Monday before a conference on the future of the alliance. "This would be totally unnecessary, since the Senate would in any case need to give its advice and consent

to any new round of enlargement." Mr. Clinton's administration has defended a limited first-round expansion

of NATO by arguing that the alliance will keep "an open door" to admitting more new members later.

But some senators and others fear that further expansion would antagonize Russia or damage prospects for armscontrol agreements with Moscow. Others want to tie NATO expansion to an enlargement of the European Union.

Senator John Warner, Republican of Virginia, has been most prominent in urging a five-year moratorium on a second round of expansion. But on Monday, in a telephone interview from Muscat, Oman, where he is traveling with Defense Secretary William Cohen, he said he had decided to work instead for a three-year moratorium.

Mr. Warner said he would start the clock on the moratorium from the date the last of the 16 current NATO countries approved the new members, not from their expected entry date in mid-1999.

"That seems a fair period of time to make an objective evaluation of how the first round goes." he said. He said he would introduce his amendment in a floor speech in the Senate on Friday. But administration officials do not want their hands ried and fear that a

moratorium "will draw new lines in Europe," a senior official said Monday. They are concerned that discussion of a 'pause'' could lead to a coalition of senators who oppose NATO expansion.

Shevardnadze, a Survivor, Asks, 'What Do Enemies Want?'

By Steve LeVine New York Times Service

TBILISI, Georgia — A day after surviving his second assassination attempt in 30 months, Georgia's president joked and reminisced in a celebratory political meeting Tuesday, then posed the question that was on many minds:

"What do Eduard Shevardnadze's enemies the bus and jumping to the ground. He was taken to hospital, where he was being treated for head and hand injuries. Mr. Shevardnadze, 70, who gained fame in the late 1980s as Mikhail Gorbachev's reformist foreign minister, typically did not answer directly. Rather he warned darkly of a "third force" of

'international terrorism' in Russia. "I would like to tell the people that their president is in good shape, and our fight for democracy and independence will be even greater," a relaxed Mr. Shevardnadze told Georgian politicians, foreign diplomats and journalists.

The attack came as the silver-haired leader has led Georgia to a measure of genuine independence from Russia six years after the Soviet breakup.

A senior aide to Mr. Shevardnadze held unidentified forces living in Russia responsible, asserting that the shift of regional balance was behind the

"Independence in the Caucasus — Georgia, Azerbaijan and Armenia — has become a fact," said Peter Mamradze, a top political adviser to Mr. Shevardnadze. "They can't reconcile themselves

Diplomats and regional officials describe Russian leadership as splintered, with a hawkish group unassociated with President Boris Yeltsin dominating policy in regions such as the Caucasus. This group is said to have backed a handful of separatist wars in the region that have broken out since the

Soviet collapse, in addition to Russia's disastrous war in Chechnya.

Mr. Shevardnadze, who returned to lead his native republic of 5 million people in 1992, seemed Tuesday to be uninjured, unlike the first attempt on his life, in which he suffered cuts and bruises when a car exploded near his motorcade in 1995. The latest attack, however, killed the presidential bodyguard credited with saving Mr. Shevardnadze's life in 1995, Kakha Shevardenidze, 37. Two other

presidential bodyguards were injured. State security investigators and Army troops had strung rope around a park from which Mr. Shevardnadze's entourage was attacked about

11:15 P.M. Monday as he traveled home. The assault appeared professional. A group penetrated presidential security, took up positions undetected among trees, then by and large escaped after throwing grenades at all of Mr. Shevard-

nadze's vehicles as they moved at high speed. Mr. Shevardnadze survived only because his

chauffeur managed to drive his disabled armored Mercedes limousine another 150 yards before it stalled, taking the president out of the assassins' Georgian officials estimated the assassination

group's size at more than two dozen. One, a Chechen, was killed and his body left behind by the ''I can't tell you who took part,'' Mr. Shevard-

nadze said, "but by the scale and level it was conducted, I can say it was a kind of international terrorism. Mr. Shevardnadze said he did not "have in mind

the leadership of Russia."

But there are certain other circles who have their own interests, and use the kind of methods as last night," he said.

Yeltsin Wraps Up Visit to Italy With Papal Audience Agence France-Presse The audience was significant because ROME — President Boris Yeltsin of the Russian president's role as mediator in the crisis between the Roman The audience was significant because Mr. Yeltsin's spokesman, Sergei appeal with Mr. Prodi for a diplomatic yasztrzhembsky, said after the meeting solution to the Iraqi crisis. The 67-year-old Russian leader, ap-

"The dangers on the entire border are Russia wrapped up a two-day visit to Italy on Tuesday by signing lucrative business deals with his Italian hosts and meeting at the Vatican for the first time with Pope John Paul II.

The closed-door meeting with the Pope, held in the library of his private residence at the Vatican, lasted more Mr. Schulze said he was told that the passengers on the bus crossing from Germany to Poland came mainly from

Schumann, Free French 'Voice,' Dies

news-agency correspondent in London.

Mr. Schumann joined the Havas news agency in 1933 after graduating from the University of Paris with a degree in

Born in Paris to shop-owning parents,

Catholic and Russian Orthodox churches, notably in organizing a meet-ing between the Pope and Patriarch Alexy II.

Before the meeting, Mr. Yeltsin indicated his discussions with the Pope would include "the next millennium, religion and social affairs."

by the Pope to Russia. Observers said such a visit was un-

likely until ties between the two churches are improved.

Earlier, Mr. Yeltsin met with the Italian prime minister, Romano Prodi, and signed a "plan of action" to bolster bilateral trade. He also made a joint

Mr. Yeltsin and Mr. Prodi said at a joint news conference that they would send a "very strong" message to the

Iraqi president, Saddam Hussein.
"What is essential is that we avoid an inferno, that we do everything to peacefully resolve this conflict by way of

pearing in good health and spirits.

stressed, however, that pressure

should be put on Baghdad to bend to

United Nations weapons inspection

diplomacy," Mr. Yeltsin said. "We are at a delicate moment for world peace," Mr. Prodi said, adding that Italy and Russia "must make their

joint position known." "I believe that our plea will not go

imanswered." he said. On Monday, Mr. Yeltsin met with President Oscar Luigi Scalfaro, who pledged Italy's support in seeking a diplomatic solution in Irac.

Mr. Yeltsin signed an agreement Tuesday that emphasized a "special understanding" between Rome and Mos-cow. The "action plan" was a culmination of efforts to put into play the political, economic, scientific and cultural aspects of the peace treaty signed

by both countries in 1994. Mr. Yeltsin and Mr. Prodi also signed cooperation accords for sectors that include technology, education, culture, energy and space exploration.

Italy is Russia's second most important trading partner in Europe after

Gегшапу. Mr. Yeltsin and Mr. Prodi were to

meet with Italian and Russian businessmen on Wednesday, then have a private lunch with their wives and Mr. Yeltsin's danghter Tatiana.

The Russian president was to return Maurice Schumann in November at to Moscow early Wednesday after-

Jospin Wins **Vote on Cut** In Workweek

Agence France-Presse PARIS -- A bill that would institute a 35-hour workweek in the year 2000 in hope of creating jobs sailed through a first reading Tuesday in the French National As-

But it was expected to have a harder time in the Senate, where a conservative majority is likely to make major changes before returning it to the lower house.

The bill, the work of Labor Minister Martine Aubry, keeps one of the most important election promises of Prime Minister Lionel Jospin, whose Socialist-dominated coalition defeated the center-right in general elections in June.

The legislation would cut four hours from the current 39-hour workweek. Opponents contend that it will raise labor costs without creating jobs. The unemployment rate in France is 12.2 percent.

The bill will not be considered by the Senate before March 3, so it could not win final parliamentary approval until after the French regional elections on May 15 and 22.

The bill came out of the discussion phase in the National Assembly without any major modifications after a week of debate, despite

strong opposition from employers. The government agreed that busi-nesses could keep the 39-hour week while allowing workers additional time off over a year.

The bill would make make the shorter work hours compulsory by the year 2000 for companies with more than 20 workers, and by 2002 for the rest.

before he played a leading role in French politics, he had entered history Simpson, just before her marriage to Britain's former King Edward VIII, beas the "Voice of France" in exile and cause he had sent a huge bouquet of General Charles de Gaulle's spokesman flowers along with his request. during the war. In 1940-44, when France was under Mr. Schumann, who was born a Jew German occupation, Mr. Schumann's

and led a Jewish youth movement as a teenager, became a fervent Roman distinctive nasal tones were the main Catholic shortly before the war after link between the French population and what relatives called a mystical expethe London-based Free French move-

> His wartime role ensured him easy access to postwar national politics. He helped found the Popular Republican Movement, France's main Christian democratic political party, and was elected to the National Assembly.

He was deputy foreign minister from 1951 to 1954 and headed Parliament's foreign affairs committee for most of the period from 1957 to 1968.

The job came naturally to Mr. Schu-mann, an early volunteer for the Gaullist · He gained full ministerial rank after General de Gaulle returned to power in 1958, holding such posts as minister for cause, because of his experience as a scientific research and later for social affairs. He became foreign minister in 1969 under President Georges Pompidon, a post he held until 1973, devoting much of his time to European affairs and playing a leading role in the early days of the Common Market.

He liked to recall that he got an ex-clusive interview with Wallis Warfield He resigned his ministerial job in 1973 after losing his parliamentary seat in an election but was elected to the Senate the following year. He was vice president of the Senate from 1977 to

Mr. Schumann wrote many books about history and religion and was a member of the Academie Française and president of the French Catholic writers' association.

A wartime incident dogged him throughout his career — he volunteered to parachute into occupied France on D-Day, but then refused to jump when the aircraft was over France. Later he joined a tank unit and was decorated for fighting in Normandy, but the parachute incident was brought up endlessly by political opponents in subsequent (AP, Reuters)



an Academie Francaise ceremony. noon.

BRIEFLY

leader was released from prison Tuesday, a day after a ban on his nationalist party was lifted, officials said.

The opposition leader, Vahan Oganesian, of the Dashnak Party, was sentenced in 1995 to four years in jail on charges of having MUNICH - More than 100 police officers raided offices belonging to the Church of Scientology in Munich on Tuesday, state preme Court spokesman, said he was freed Tuesday afternoon.

On Monday, the Justice Ministry lifted a The raids were linked to investigations ban on the party and ordered the release of into the death last year of a businessman Mr. Oganesian and Grant Markaryan, anwho reportedly received medical advice other Dashnak leader, who was serving a stronger security measures. from Scientology members, three cases of sentence for anti-government activities. Mr. suspected arson and the reported distribu-Markaryan was released Monday. State prosecutors said that Scientology

The government of President Levon Ter-Petrosian suspended the party in 1994 and the Armenian Supreme Court banned Dashnak activities in January 1995. Mr. Ter-Petrosian resigned last week and presidential elections were scheduled for March 16. Dashnak officials said Monday that Mr. Oganesian might enter the presidential

Last April, he sought to run for Parliament, but prosecutors refused to let him (AP)

Strikers Go to the Top BRUSSELS - Striking Belgian security

guards got Prime Minister Jean-Luc Dehaene out of bed Tuesday to ask his help to incited a coup. Garegin Avakyan, a Su- resolve a month-long dispute that has emptied automatic cash machines.

transport trucks to protest the killing of two colleagues in a robbery Jan. 12. They want Mr. Dehaene to support their demands for

A few dozen striking guards met outside the prime minister's home at 6 A.M. A delegation was invited in and said later that he "will take steps" to end the strike.

Separately, an independent conciliator supported the strikers' call for all bank transports to be accompanied by at least three

IRA Accused in Slaying

accused the Irish Republican Army on Tues- criminal behavior.

day of violating its cease-fire by fatally shooting a suspected drug dealer and wounding his female companion. Possibly in reaction, a lone gunman

fatally shot a Protestant man in his car in

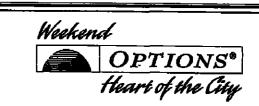
Belfast on Tuesday. In the first shooting, one or more gunmen confronted Brendan Campbell, 33, and his The strikers are refusing to drive bank companion as they were getting into their car in Belfast. He was dead on arrival at the nearby City Hospital, where the woman was

being treated for serious back wounds.

While no group claimed responsibility. Mr. Campbell was shot through the chest Jan. 6 in an attack blamed on "Direct Action Against Drugs," a cover name for the outlawed IRA.

'Direct Action Against Drugs' took responsibility for the killings of eight civilian men from mid-1995 to mid-1996, when the IRA was officially dormant during its ceasefire in Northern Ireland.

The IRA began a new truce in July 1997 but the IRA has continued to inflict what it terms "punishment" - beatings and shoot-BELFAST — The police and politicians ings — on scores of people it accused of



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INTER-CONTINENTAL. HOTELS AND RESORTS

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By Thomas W. Lippman

WASHINGTON - The Clinton administration's difficulty in winning international support for a military strike against Iraq has been com-pounded by links between the Iraq issue and several other critical but seemingly unrelated foreign policy decisions that are also on the table, according to senior officials.

peace process and President Bill Clinton's desire nomic sanctions under U.S. law. The legal anfor expanded trade negotiating authority are parts swer is almost certainly "yes," analysts said, but of the equation as the administration calculates

how to proceed against Iraq, the officials say.

As a result, Mr. Clinton's foreign-policy team, after a relatively tranquil 1997, is going through one of the most testing periods of the president's second term, senior officials and independent analysts said. While not as trying as the foreign policy disarray of 1993, when a new administration was buffeted by crises in Somalia and

He and others said that each of several key decisions that must be made soon carried the potential for serious negative consequences somewhere else.

For example, the administration must decide soon whether a major investment by French and coording to senior officials.

Russian oil companies in an offshore natural gas
Issues as varied as the future of the Middle East

development in Iran should be subject to ecoa decision to impose sanctions now would further strain relations with Russia and France, permanent members of the UN Security Council that said. "But sanctions would make it much more washington on Iraq, several analysts said."

> its economy, both goals that could be set back by sanctions against RAO Gazprom, the energy

Bosnia, the impasses in the Middle East and Persian Gulf especially are forcing senior officials into stressful choices.

Conglomerate that is Russia's largest company. In addition, European diplomats have told the administration in strong language that if the

lenge not just to the law requiring sanctions over investment in Iran but also to imposing U.S. economic sanctions on some foreign firms that

A successful challenge to U.S. law in the World Trade Organization would be seen in Congress as a threat to U.S. sovereignty, several analysts said, and would probably doom any new administration request for expanded trade negotiating authority

oppose the use of force in Iraq.

Mr. Clinton has a substantial political investto do nothing."

A senior administration official denied reports

sanctions question and Iraq in which the United States would forgo sanctions in exchange for backing of the use of force. Each issue will be

decided on its merits, the official said. The stalemate in Israeli-Palestinian peace ne-

"These issues are messy in themselves, and the linkages, real or perceived, make them even harder," one senior official said.

United States pursues sanctions against the gotiations has reached the point that some administration officials say the United States is mining out of ideas about how to re-energize the so-called Oslo peace process. But pressure on either side for movement could influence support

for U.S. policy on Iraq.
In the Arab world, a U.S. failure to push Israel into further troop withdrawals from the West Bank would be perceived as capitulation to what Arabs portray as the intransigence of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

Arabs already unhappy about the prospect of a massive U.S. aerial bombardment of another Arab

But Israel has strong support in Congress, where many members blame the Palestinians for the impasse in the peace process. Some members are already questioning the wisdom of putting additional pressure on Israel to give up territory when Israel faces the possibility that Iraq will fire Scud missiles into its territory, as it did in 1991.

Turkey, a NATO ally, opposes the use of force against Iraq and has made no secret of its desire to see Baghdad's iron-fisted control restored in the Kurdish regions of Northern Iraq to stop incursions of Kurdish rebels into Turkey. Turkey is strongly opposed to any action that contributes to a breakup of Iraq and that encourages Kurdish aspirations for an independent country.
Washington, meanwhile, wants Turkish cooperation in enlarging NATO and in seeking a

والمتراجة والمتحافظة

operation in enlarging NATU and in seeking a solution to the long-standing division of Cyprus. "You can't allow yourself to be driven to paralysis," a senior official said of these interlocking considerations. "But you have to go through that region of the world thinking of alliances and coalitions, because if you don't you become the target of coalitions that form against you. The purveyor of orthodoxy inspires you. The purveyor of orthodoxy inspires

There is no question there are a series of issues out there — on Iraq, on how best to pursue the Middle East peace process, on Iran and the question of sanctionability — that are sensitive Another major factor in the Iraq equation is issues coming to a head very soon, "said James relations with Turkey, a semior official said. Rubin, the State Department spokesman.

Police in Paris Interrogate **De Niro About Call-Girl Ring**

PARIS - French investigators questioned the actor Robert de Niro on Tuesday in connection with a call-girl ring, police sources said.

The police picked up Mr. de Niro at the Bristol Hotel, where he was staying while shooting a movie in Paris, the

Mr. De Niro, 54, was interviewed by police as a witness on a warrant from Frederic N'Guyen, the investigating magistrate who interrogated the actor after a first round of questioning by

Details on why the magistrate wanted to speak with Mr. De Niro were not immediately available.

The police detained the Oscar-winning actor at midday and questioned him for several hours.

Investigators said Mr. De Niro had

istrate had violated his client's freedom of movement and right to privacy under French law.

leaked out that Mr. De Niro was being questioned.

Five people have been placed under their belongings on their heads, are toppied interested and triggered a continuous people, many with gional authorities.

Witnesses said.

formal investigation in the case -- one step short of being charged - since the prostitution case broke last February after a four-month investigation that included telephone surveillance.

Annika Brumark, a former model, and Jean-Pierre Bourgeois, a photographer, were accused of receiving fees from young prostitutes.

Both have been in detention since January.

Prostitution is legal in France, but pimping is not. The ring allegedly charged from 3,000 francs (\$490) to 50,000 francs (\$8,200).

Frostitution is legal in France, but airport when a technician caught a glimpse of it early Sunday morning. It swiftly disappeared and was not seen again for more than 48 hours, until it was area." he said.

French newspapers have reported that the ring's clients and prostitutes came swissair had to find a rep from Bosnia, the United States, Britain, aircraft for the Sunday morning flight cables were checked before the airline Indonesia and Morocco. (AP, AFP) to Vienna, which had been ready for put it back into service.



PROTEST WALL - Bosnian Serbs gathering Tuesday at a stretch of brick wall they built in Dobrinja, a Sarajevo suburb, along the boundary line separating them from Muslim-Croat areas. It was erected to protest the arrest of a Serb accused of assassinating the Bosnian deputy prime minister, Hakija Turajlic, in 1993.

for questioning. But Mr. De Niro's lawyer, Georges Kiejman, said the investigating magistrate had violated his client's food-

FREETOWN, Sierra Leone — Thou The lawyer said it was "inadmiss- sands of civilians fled the eastern sub-

ZURICH - A two-day hunt for a rat

The animal caused chaos at the Zurich

bacon-baited trap.

Swissair Jet Is Trapped for 2 Days by a Rat

that grounded a Swissair Airbus ended case the rat had gnawed through cables

Tuesday when the rodent walked into a or wiring while on board.

able" the way his client was held all day urbs of this capital city Tuesday after announced an effort Monday to evict resistance. in a case where he was only a witness. He heavy overnight battles between the lo- Sierra Leone's military junta, which also criticized the fact that news had cal army and Nigerian-led West African toppled the elected government last May and triggered a confrontation with re-

boarding when the alarm was raised.

its uninvited stay, a Swissair spokesman,

business-class section, in the galley

It was not known how the rodent got

This was in part a safety precaution, in

trekking to the city center to seek shel-ter," a witness in the capital said. force began heavy bombardments of eastern districts of the capital overnight. The U.S. deployment at Moron The West African peacekeeping force but ground attacks were meeting stiff

> "Both sides are fighting for every Reporters who ventured to the out-

Witnesses said the peacekeeping skirts of town saw bodies on the side of the highway leading to the interior of the country via the capital's satellite towns of Waterloo, Kissy and Wellington.
"We saw whole houses demolished

by overnight shelling, some of them still burning," one local reporter said.

May 25 provoked a confrontation be-The animal showed some style during tween the junta and members of the 16nation Economic Community of West African States, known as Ecowas, and "It spent most of its time behind the their peacekeeping force, the Ecowas

Monitoring Group, known as Ecomog. Ecomog is enforcing an land, air and sea blockade of Sierra Leone and an Swissair had to find a replacement on board, he said. The plane's wiring and arms and economic embargo imposed by the United Nations to force a return to constitutional rule.

IRAQ: Clinton Intensifies Push for Support

Reuters.

Continued from Page 1

erroment had authorized the United States to use the Lajes air base in the Azores in any attack on Iraq.

Gulf War in 1991, in which the United States led a UN operation to drive Iraqi

The United States has a base at Lajes, but under the terms of its agreement with Portugal it needs special permission for nonroutine operations.

Eggleton, said the frigate Toronto had been directed to turn around in the Mediterranean and head for the Gulf to arrive there within 16 days.

"This will be a clear signal to Saddam received any such request from the

A U.S. petition to use the air base would be carefully studied, said the spokesman, Miguel Angel Rodriguez, who added that for Spain, "Our ally is

While Mr. Clinton and his aides re-

solve this situation diplomatically,"

A coup against Sierra Leone's elected president, Ahmad Tejan Kabbah, last end would be for Saddam Hussein to go

She added that no decision had been made to use force, and she steered away from statements made two weeks ago

■ Turks Battle Kurds in Iraq

Turkish troops supported by armored

WITNESS: Lewinsky's Mother Testifies

Continued from Page 1

Kendall wants contempt sanctions against the prosecutor's office.

■ Stepping Up the Pace

Peter Baker and Susan Schmidt of The

Washington Post reported earlier: The decision by Mr. Starr to summon Ms. Lewinsky to appear before a Wash-Clinton in exchange for immunity from

The move to bring Ms. Lewinsky before the grand jury signaled that Mr.
Starr has apparently lost patience with
the young woman and her lawyers and
seems less likely to ever bring her aboard

as a cooperating witness. Even if against her will, Ms. Lewinsky could be a damaging witness against Mr. Clinton. In a proffer to prosecutors describing how she would testify if granted the full immunity she had sought, Ms. Lewinsky acknowledged a sexual relationship with the president, Mr. Ginsburg said he held out little hope for an amicable deal with Mr.

Saudi Prince Donates Airliner to Palestinians

Agence France-Presse Saudi Arabia presented a Boeing 727 said the president's attorneys are preparate to attack Ms. Lewinsky's credibility.

In addition to changing her story, they note that Mr. Ginsburg has suggested in television interviews that Ms. Lewinsky that Ms. Lewinsky may embellish or oversell GAZA - Prince Walid ibn Talal of

Prince Walid, chairman of the King-dom Holding Company and one of the who would question her veracity. They

Jerusalem or Bethlebem to build hotels entire life.

for his Movenpick chain.

To avoid

directly contradicting his denials in pub-lic and under oath in the Paula Jones case, according to sources familiar with the document.

That alone could expose Mr. Clinton to a possible perjury charge. Less clear, though, is how useful Ms. Lewinsky's testimony would be for Mr. Starr in building a case of subornation of perjury or obstruction of justice against Mr. ington grand jury forces a climax to long Clinton or against Vernon Jordan Jr., his and fruitless talks over whether she close friend and Washington attorney, would voluntarily testify against Mr. who helped Ms. Lewinsky find a job while she was considering how to respond to Mrs. Jones's lawyers herself.

Ms. Lewinsky swore out a Jan. 7 affidavit denying a liaison with Mr. Clinton just as she was offered a public relations job by Revlon facilitated by Mr. Jordan, who is on the company's

In the proffer, the sources have said,

If she is forced to appear before the grand jury and pleads the Fifth, Mr. Starr could go ahead and prosecute her, pos-sibly for perjury or subornation of per-jury. If instead he gives her limited immunity and she repudiates the Jan. 7 affidavit, several people knowledgeable about Mr. Clinton's legal strategy have said the president's attorneys are prepared

world's wealthiest businessmen, also intend to point our any contradic-donated the jet to Palestinian Airways, which operates two small Fokker jets.

A statement issued by the Kingdom her onetime friend, Linda Tripp. On one Holding Company said that the prince of the tapes, sources have reported that was also studying possible sites in east. Ms. Lewinsky said, "I have lied my

To avoid relying entirely on Ms. Lew-



FREEDOM - Giuseppe Soffiantini celebrating Tuesday with his wife at their home in northern Italy after the businessman was freed by his Sardinian kidnappers Monday. His abductors cut off bits of his ears and released him when \$5.5 million in ransom was paid.

insky, Mr. Starr and his investigators said Ms. Raines told investigators that physical evidence to try to corroborate Ms. Lewinsky's taped discussions. In the weeks during which prosecutors have been seeking Ms. Lewinsky's co-operation, they have obtained the testimony of several witnesses who might back up aspects of the story Ms. Lew-

insky told on the Tripp tapes.

Mr. Clinton's personal secretary,
Berty Currie, has told investigators that she sometimes left the president and Ms. Lewinsky alone while she was in the next room, an apparent contradiction of Mr. Clinton's recollections in his sworn deposition in Mrs. Jones's case, according to sources familiar with their ac-

Another White House aide, Ashley Raines, a close friend of Ms. Lewinsky's, told investigators that Ms. Lewinsky confided in her details of her relationship with Mr. Clinton, Newsweek said this week, citing lawyers close to the case said that an attorne the Clinton defense team. The lawyers Willey is fighting the release.

have been seeking other witnesses and she had heard Mr. Clinton's voice on Ms. Lewinsky's answering machine tape, just as Ms. Tripp reportedly did.

A White House official has acknowl-

edged that Ms. Raines is talking to Mr. Starr's office; she testified before the grand jury last week. But lawyers at the White House refused to say what her lawyer has told them about her testi-

mony.

Mr. Starr has also sought depositions, videotapes and documents from Mrs. Jones's lawyers regarding Kathleen Willey, another White House aide, who reportedly alleged that Mr. Clinton groped and kissed her in 1993, and any other "Jane Doe" women who may have bad sexual encounters with the president. The Jones lawyers had until Tuesday to turn over the material.

But a federal judge in Richmond, Virthe case said that an attorney for Mrs.
Willev is fighting the release.

extremist fringe — especially far-right parties with a xenophobic message.

EURO: Changing Alliances

Continued from Page 1

that a premature shift to the euro could imperil fundamental national interests. That message clearly resonates with voters. The latest polls show that 7 out of 10 Germans do not want the euro to replace the mark.

In other countries, the euro is also creating an unusual assortment of political bedfellows. Britain's Labour prime minister. Tony Blair, has reached out to erstwhile enemies by advocating a "patriotic alliance" among pro-Europe forces cutting across party lines. He argues that left-right divisions should not matter between Labour and Conservative politicians who recognize the need to work together "in favor of Britain's central place in Europe.'

Mr. Blair's appeal received cautious endorsement from Kenneth Clarke, former chancellor of the Exchequer and a leading pro-Europe figure among the Conservatives. While suspicious about any attempt to shatter his party, Mr. Clarke said he was "always open to listen to sensible ideas" and expressed a belief that "the political debate will now

undergo a considerable change."
In Italy, Prime Minister Romano Prodi has managed to keep his fractious "Olive Tree" coalition together largely by the discipline imposed in the drive toward monetary union, Mr. Prodi acknowledg-es that without the fiscal requirements for the euro, his leftist alliance would have exploded by now because of pent-up demands for higher wages and greater government spending.

Similarly, among France's ruling mainstream parties, the need to curtail state debts and public deficits has enforced a rare display of cooperation between President Jacques Chirac, a conservative, and the Socialist government of Prime Minister Lionel Jospin. In ginia, must first partly lift a court seal on France as in Austria, the main opposition those items and a source familiar with to monetary union has come from the

ish guerrillas in the mountains of northern Iraq on Tuesday, Turkish military

officials and witnesses said, according to

The reports appeared to contradict statements by Turkey's leaders that the

country's troops were not active in

northern Iraq, which has been outside Baghdad's control since the Gulf War

BRIEFLY

Mission to Algeria

Sees No Obstacles

ALGIERS - Visiting European

lawmakers met at length Tuesday

with the foreign minister and the

head of a government-run human-rights group and said that "nothing is being left in the shadows."

The nine-member mission from

the European Parliament, which ar-

rived in Algeria on Sunday for a

five-day visit, has nevertheless been

denied permission to visit sites of

massacres that have occurred dur-

ing a six-year-old insurgency by

Unofficial estimates have put the

death toll in that conflict at 75,000.

The government says about 26,500 people have been killed. The au-

thorities blame the rebels for the

killings, but questions have been

raised as to whether the army may

The parliamentary delegation is

seeking facts and trying to establish

a dialogue with Algeria on the vi-

'Nothing has been left in the shadows," said Andre Soulier of France, the head of the delegation.

'Our discussions and our wish to

The delegation met Tuesday

morning for two hours with Foreign

Minister Ahmed Attaf and with the

head of the state-run National Of-

Talks so far have covered se-

curity, human rights and terrorism,

including "its causes here and elsewhere," Mr. Soulier said. (AP)

inform ourselves are proceeding

without obstacles.

fice on Human Rights.

Islamic militants.

Tanker aircraft operating from Lajes refueled hundreds of planes during the forces out of Kuwait.

In Canada, the defense minister, Art

Two Hercules aircraft, capable of re-fueling fighter jets in mid-air as well as providing transport, will be sent from Winnipeg within seven days, once a land base in the region is found for them, he

Hussein that the United States and the U.K. are not alone," Mr. Eggleton said. Spain's largest-circulation daily newspaper reported, meanwhile, that the government will permit the U.S. military to use a Spanish air base in an attack on Iraq, but the prime minister's chief spokesman said that Madrid had not

United States.

base would involve about 30 KC-130 tanker planes for inflight refueling of U.S. warplanes, reported the daily, El inch of soil with blood," one fleeing Pais, citing unidentified government

> newed warnings that they were prepared to resort to force to punish Mr. Saddam, they also underscored that diplomacy might still produce a breakthrough.
> "We want very much to be able to

> Mrs. Albright told senators.

back and allow" the UN inspectors to return to work, she said.

that diplomatic options were "all but exhausted." (AFP, Rewers, AP, NYT)

Yemeni Tribesmen Seize Dutch Tourist

SAN'A, Yemen — Yemeni tribesmen kidnapped a Dutch tourist as he strolled near his hotel on the outskirts of the capital, a tribal source said Tuesday.

Three tribesmen abducted the man late Monday and took him to Marib, a town 170 kilometers (105 miles) northeast of San'a. The kidnappers, from the Toai-

man tribe, are demanding the re-

lease of three tribe members who were arrested this week while trying to steal a government car. The source said another tribe had begun negotiations with the kidnappers on behalf of the government. Dutch Embassy officials would not comment, but employees at the Ramada Hadda, where the man was staying, gave his name as J. Westgeest and said he was 60

2 Killed in Mexico In Rebel Ambush

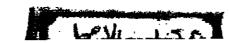
MEXICO CITY — Two persons have been killed and several others wounded in an attack by suspected Marxist guerrillas on the treasurer of a town in the southern state of Oaxaca, officials and newspapers

said Monday. Oaxaca prosecutors said one of the assailants and a local resident were killed when 15 armed men. dressed in black and wearing handkerchiefs over their faces, attacked the convoy of the treasurer.

Fabio Almaraz, on Saturday. The ambush took place near Mr. Almaraz's town, San Agustin Loxicha, about 140 kilometers southwest of the state capital, Oax-

The local newspaper, El Impar cial, said the slain attacker, iden-tified only as "Commander Z," belonged to a Marxist guerrilla group called the Popular Revolutionary

The group conducted a series of attacks on government officials in (Reuters)



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Mission to Algeria Sees No Obstacles

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Arab Ambivalence

Despite considerable coaxing of Arab allies in recent weeks, the Clinton administration has failed to reassemble the coalition of nations that fought alongside America in the Gulf War. Saudi Arabia is the latest country to rebuff Washington. Doing without the Saudi bases will complicate but not cripple America's ability to use airpower against Iraq. But it means trou-ble for the long-term effort to contain Saddam Hussein and his program to develop weapons of mass destruction.

Except for Kuwait, no Arab country publicly endorses the use of military force against Iraq. Privately, though, most confess that they would be delighted if Washington's attacks drove Saddam Hussein from power or fatally weakened his rule. It is disappointing that American allies who are among those most at risk from Irag's development of germ and nerve gas weapons feel compelled to engage in

such a diplomatic characle. Granted, the issues today are not the same as they were in 1990 after Iraq invaded Kuwait and menaced Saudi Arabia. The danger from Baghdad seems more abstract, Hardship caused by seven years of United Nations sanctions has aroused sympathy for the Iraqi people. Islamic fundamentalist movements in the region have grown stronger and are likely to stir up opposition to governments that support an American attack on Iraq.

But Iraq is a proven threat to the region. A decade ago, Baghdad showed its willingness to use poison gas against Iran and against its own Kurdish minority. Gulf governments once believed that Iraq would use its military strength to shield them from an Iran intent on exporting its militant Islamic revolution, but today, with Iran courting better relations with its neighbors, the most immediate threat comes from Iraq.

Washington is doing all it can to root out Iraq's terror weapons by peaceful means. If military force is required to assure that United Nations weapons inspectors can complete that job, America deserves Arab support. Arab leaders should stand united, not against Iraq or its people but against the crimes of its dangerous dictator.

-THE NEW YORK TIMES.

Cambodia's Dictator

Last July the deputy prime minister of Cambodia, Hun Sen, overthrew the elected prime minister in a widely condemned coup d'état, forcing the leader into exile and reversing Cambodia's halting progress toward democracy. The international community, upon which Cambodia relied heavily for aid. has been, for the most part and after some initial hesitation, admirably united in pressing Hun Sen to repair the damage he caused.

Now the European Union, by authorizing \$11.5 million in aid for the Hun Sen regime, has imperiled that unity - and Cambodia's chances to return to a democratic path.

Cambodia is a small and impoverished nation in Southeast Asia, but the United States has good reason to care what happens there. The two nations' histories have been linked since the Vietnam War. After the nightmare of Khmer Rouge rule and genocide, the United States and its allies pumped billions of dollars into Cambodia to help rebuild and to hold elections. U.S. officials pointed to Cambodia as a model of what a determined international alliance can do to promote democracy

and post-conflict reconciliation. Now, though, if the European precedent stands. Cambodia could instead become an example of Western hypocrisy on the subject of democracy.

Europe's grant is intended to help prepare for elections that Hun Sen wants to stage in July, seemingly a worthy

bodia today there is no possibility of a free and fair vote; Hun Sen is simply

looking to acquire some pseudo-demo-

cratic cover for his dictatorship. On this point there is not much dispute. The ousted prime minister, Prince Ranariddh, has not been permitted to return. Hun Sen has done nothing to investigate or punish those responsible for dozens of political murders that took place during and after his coup. A recent report by the International Republican Institute and the National Democratic Institute said that "the level of fear and intimidation experienced by Cambodians has not lessened." Human Rights Watch reports "pervasive impunity and a cli-mate of fear." The U.S. State Department agrees.

Free elections should indeed be the goal of the international community, and the sooner the better. But Carnbodia's neighbors in Southeast Asia have agreed with the United States, Japan and others on certain basic conditions essential for such a vote: an independent election commission, the right to return of all exiled politicians. restoration of freedom of the press, movement toward prosecution of those

responsible for the post-coup killings. To break ranks now on the importance of these conditions can only embolden Hun Sen - and any other dictator who might study his example. —THE WASHINGTON POST.

A Phone in the Village

These days if you put "bank" and 'Asia'' in the same sentence you are likely to elicit a negative reaction. Bankers in Asia are under assault for having lent indefensible sums to their pals, thereby setting the stage for that region's current financial crisis. U.S. and other Western bankers are criticized for fueling that lending spree at a remove, without having checked their clients' creditworthiness.

Muhammad Yunus is a different kind of Asian banker. A Bangladeshi economist, he started more than 20 years ago by lending \$27 from his own pocket to several impoverished villagers. They all repaid the loans, and today Mr. Yunus's cooperative Grameen Bank boasts more than 2 million borrowers, 12,000 employees and 1,000 branches serving 37,000 villages. Its operating principle has not changed. Grameen lends tiny sums to the poorest of the poor, motivated by a conviction that credit is as crucial to escaping poverty as food, housing, clean water and all the other more maditional development goals.

A typical Grameen loan is \$170. Borrowers, mostly women, use the funds to buy a cow, a loom or something else that will generate income and allow them to pay off their loan - which almost all do. One-third have escaped

dire poverty, Mr. Yunus says. Now, having demolished the longdominant stereotype of the poor as not creditworthy. Grameen has set its sights on the misguided view of the rural poor as inevitably isolated from the global economy. Grameen Phone has embarked on a for-profit campaign to bring one cellular telephone to each

village. Bangladesh has only one telephone for every 300 people, and most of those are in the capital, so the potential for growth is clear.

Mr. Yunus is not the first person, of course, to suggest that poor countries without fixed-wire telephone systems might leapfrog straight into the wire-less age, and so far other champions of the theory have not got far. But Mr. Yunus has married that theory to Grameen's traditional reliance on the initiative of the very poor. One "telephone lady" in each village buys a phone set on credit and pays for it gradually by charging other villagers small sums for each use. Early experience has shown a sizable demand to communicate with relatives working overseas, to announce family weddings, to check whether a strike in town has ended before bringing pro-

duce to market. The practice of microcredit has now spread to dozens of other countries, including the United States. It has been championed by Hillary Clinton, the U.S. Agency for International Development and the World Bank, among others. Some of its backers now argue with evangelical zeal, calling microcredit the single or chief answer to

world poverty. Mr. Yunus makes no such claim, calling it simply one essential tool. Similarly, he does not oppose the Western bailout of now ailing Asian banks. But he points to their secrecy, cronyism and bias toward bigness as elements of the recipe that brought Asia such troubles. Making credit more democratic is one antidote.

-THE WASHINGTON POST.

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IMF Reform Programs Are Varied and Necessary

NEW YORK — Many people assume that the economic reform programs in Thailand, Indonesia and South Korea that are supported by the International Monetary Fund must be the same kind of belt-tightening adjustment packages that the public has long associated with the IMF. But these programs are a marked departure from

those we have traditionally supported. The centerpiece of each of the Asian programs is not a set of austerity measures to restore macroeconomic balance, but a set of forceful, far-reaching structural reforms to strengthen financial systems, increase transparency, open markets and, in so doing, restore investor confidence.

To this end, nonviable financial institutions, including banks, are being closed down. Other institutions are being required to produce restructuring plans and comply, within a reasonable period of time that varies from country to country, with internationally accep-ted best practices, including Basel cap-ital adequacy standards for banks and accounting practices and disclosure rules for companies.

Other changes are under way to strengthen financial sector regulation and supervision, increase transparency

Perilous IMF Overdoses

The methods of the typical IMF rescue package tend to turn an economic crisis into a political one.

If Indonesia falls into chaos, we will pay for it with decades of Southeast Asian instability. Similarly, democracy in Thailand will be threatened if IMF conditions are not eased.

- Henry Kissinger, commenting in a syndicated column.

By Michel Camdessus

The writer is managing director of the International Monetary Fund.

in the corporate and government parts of the economy, create a more level playing field for private sector activity,

and intensify competition.

Taken together, these reforms will require a vast change in domestic business practices, corporate culture and overnment behavior, it will take time. But the process is in motion, and already dramatic steps have been taken.

Some critics have argued that these programs are too tough, either in calling for higher interest rates, tightening gov-ernment budgets or closing down fi-nancial institutions. But in the case of interest rates, by the time these countries approached the IMF the value of their currencies was plummeting. In Thailand and South Korea, foreign exchange reserves were perilously low. Thus, the first order of business was, and still is, to

restore confidence in the currency. It is wrong to say that the deep currency depreciations seen in Asia in recent months have occurred by IMF design. On the contrary, in our view these currencies have dropped in value far more than is warranted or desirable. Moreover, without IMF support as part of an international effort to stabilize these economies, it is likely that the currencies would have lost even more of their value.

To reverse the slide, the countries involved have to make it more attractive to hold their currencies. That means temporarily raising interest rates, even if this complicates the situation of weak banks and companies.

as well as of the more recent experience of Brazil, Hong Kong and the Czech Republic, which have fended off at-tacks on their currencies with a nimely and forceful tightening of interest rates, along with other supporting measures. Once confidence is restored, interest

rates can return to more normal levels.
Companies with substantial foreign debt are likely to suffer far more from a long, steep slide in the value of their domestic currency than from a temporary rise in domestic interest rates. Moreover, when interest rate action is delayed, confidence continues to erode. This would likely make the increase in interest rates needed to stabilize the situation far larger than if decisive action had been taken at the outset.

Indeed, the reluctance to tighten interest rates in a determined way at the beginning has been one of the factors perpetuating the crisis in East Asia.

Higher interest rates should also encourage companies to restructure their financing away from debt and toward equity, which will be most welcome in some countries, such as South Korea.

Other critics of the IMF have advocated more expansionary fiscal programs to offset the inevitable slow-down in economic growth. Here, the reform programs must strike a delicate balance. At the start of the crisis, countries need to firm up their fiscal po-sitions, to deal both with the future costs of financial restructuring and, depending on the balance of payments situation, with the need to reduce the current account deficit.

Beyond that, if the country's economy worsens, the IMF generally agrees to let automatic stabilizers work and to allow the deficit to widen somewhat. This is a key lesson of the "tequila However, we cannot disregard the crisis" in Latin America in 1994-1995, level of the budget deficit, particularly

since a country in crisis typically has only limited access to borrowing, and the alternative of printing money would be potentially disastrous.

The IMF has also been urged by some critics not to recommend rapid for Old-Time

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action on bank reform. But it would be a mistake to allow clearly bankrupt banks to remain open. This would only perpetuate the region's financial crisis, not resolve it. The best course is to recapitalize or close insolvent banks, protect small depositors, and require shareholders to take their losses. At the same time, banking regulation and supervision must be improved.

Of course, we take individual country circumstances into account in deciding how quickly all of this can be accomplished.

The best approach is to effect a sharp, but temporary, rise in interest rates to stem the outflow of capital, while making a decisive start on the longer-term tasks of restructuring the financial sector, bringing its regulation and supervision up to international standards, and increasing domestic competition and transparency.

None of this will be easy, and, unfortunately, the pace of economic activity in these economies will inevitably slow. But the slowdown is mainly the result of the reversal of

capital flows. Without these reform programs and the international support behind them, the slowdown would be much more dramatic, the costs to the general population much higher, and the risks to the international economy much greater.

This comment was adapted by the International Herald Tribune from a speech by Mr. Camdessus on Friday at the Council on Foreign Relations.

The New Bulgaria Deserves and Wants to Join the West

OFIA - Like a desperate Demigrant crushed by 45 years of degrading communism and a period of post-Communist lethargy, Bulgaria boarded the ship bound for the free world just 12 months ago, carrying with it stable democratic institutions, the rule of law and

a free market economy. people had rediscovered themselves, drawing upon the strength of 13 centuries of historic and cultural European tra-dition. They put their country ing them no hope for the future. In the winter of 1996-97. which it had been deleted against its will after World War IL

My country is said to have been the most loyal satellite of the Soviet Union. Allegedly, it assumed this role of its own free will. The facts are different.

In the communization of Eastern Europe after World War II, Bulgaria was the country in which the new system was forced upon the population in the most violent fashion. The toll: 2,618 death sentences during the 1940s, and 184,360 Bulgarians sent to Communist labor camps — this in a country of barely 8 million.

To argue that my country has paid a lesser price for its present freedom than, say, Poland or the Czech Republic is superficial, not to say cynical. Least of all is it fair to the Bulgarians who spent their best years in Com-

By Petar Stoyanov The writer is president of Bulgaria.

nine months later it was ousted. The four solid years of post-Communist agony that followed distanced Bulgaria from the "star pupils" of Eastern Europe. At long last, the Bulgarian But this experience brought home a very important truth: that delaying or faking reforms

forefathers had, and by thinking unique for Eastern Europe.

about reforming the country, but ahead. Thus my country opted for NATO, the European Union and the democratic world. Bulgaria does not want to be

left behind in a "gray zone." Today my country lives at a fast pace. The elections of last April produced a Parliament with an absolute majority of one makes people even poorer, leav-reformist political force, a strong government and public opinion back on the political map, from Bulgaria determined to give it high social price - factors ponds fully with our determianother try by working hard, as adding up to a political status nation to develop our relations

The currency was stabilized. Monthly inflation dropped to around I percent after reaching 240 percent under the former Communists. Bulgaria's creditworthiness increased several-fold. The price of Bulgarian bonds rose by more than half. For the first time since the

end of the Cold War, life is predictable. Bulgaria has closed down its "illusion factory."

My country's strategic choice of membership in the European Union and NATO is no hostile with that vast state on the basis of

mutual benefit and respect of our sovereignty and national dig-nity. All the more so as Russia today is setting a good example in promoting market principles and democratic institutions. Bulgaria has outlived its post-

Communist complexes. My country no longer wishes to act as a mere bridge between NATO members and Russia. Now it prefers to build many bridges. together with other countries.

Bulgaria is striving to find its way into the heart of America and into the minds of the Western political elite. Can't you see it getting there?

The Czechs Are of Two Minds About NATO

PRAGUE — It was interest-ing to be in Prague watching on CNN as the U.S. Congress gave President Bill Clinton a standing ovation for his call to expand NATO to Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic. He could not get a similar standing ovation for that proposal from the Czech Parliament. After months of the Czech

government bombarding the public with propaganda about why they have to join NATO, polls show that only 54 percent of Czechs favor the idea. Two-thirds of the U.S. Senate

lions of dollars, but only half the

Czech people support the idea. Czech advocates of NATO have had to resort to the "Red scare." To the extent that there is support here for NATO membership, it is for all the reasons that the Clinton team says NATO expansion is not about.

The Clintonites insist that it is not an anti-Russian move, but Czechs say if it is not anti-Russian what use could NATO expansion be? "It is highly con-fusing to Czech people," said munist camps and prisons.

In late 1991, the first nonCommunist government set imately cost U.S. taxpayers bil
is going to be asked to ratify a the polling analyst Jan Harrl from the Stem agency. "They timately cost U.S. taxpayers bil
say, "We want NATO against

By Thomas L. Friedman Russia, and if it's not against Russia, who needs it?" Those Czechs who remain

indifferent to NATO membership fall into several camps. Many simply see no threat, so no reason. Some older Czechs are more afraid of Germany than of Russia. Many younger people are deeply skeptical of spending money on the military, which did not defend the country from the Nazis in 1938. from the Communists in 1948 or from the Soviets in 1968.

To break down this skepticism. Jiri Bis, head of the Impact ad agency in Prague, has been running a privately financed pro-NATO campaign, often using sports heroes and movie stars to sell NATO expansion as if it were a deodorant.

He has also tried to make NATO fun. On Christmas Eve they gave out 100 fresh carp to the first 100 people who showed up in Prague's main square wearing pro-NATO ribbons.

There has been an effort to underscore that joining NATO is a way for Czechs to rejoin Europe, which we were sep-arated from by the Cold War," Mr. Bis said.

Even those Czechs who see NATO as a bridge to Western Europe would really prefer to join the European Union first, but the EU has been dragging its feet because it does not want

East European workers or farm products. When asked in a Stem poll what was more important, EU membership or NATO, 44 percent of Czechs said they preferred EU membership and 13 percent said NATO.

So far, cost of membership has not been an issue, because no one really knows how much is involved. But it will be high. This is a country that traded its only advanced fighter jets, 10 MiG-29s, to Poland for helicopters because it could not afford to maintain the planes.

Says Miroslav Vacek, former defense minister and leader of the Communist Party: For the NATO alliance, the Czech army cannot mean anything in its present condition, and I doubt we will have the economic growth in the coming

years to pay for the upgrades."

If NATO expansion has to be paid for with reduced health care, social care and education. he added, it is going to lose a lot of support. When the Parliament's Foreign Relations Committee began debating ratifica-tion of NATO membership the other day, only six of the 18 members showed up.

The Clinton team is begging Czechs to take something that is for their own protection that barely half feel they want. Never mind, the Clintonites intend to plow ahead. Who says American foreign policy can't be funny? The New York Times.

IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

1898: Vatican Policy

ROME - King Humbert's Government continues to complain that the Vatican does not practise, as regards Italy, the policy of reconciliation which it knows so well now to advocate in the Republics of France and the United States. Prelates have begun to proclaim aloud their republican ideas, and the pope goes so far as to tolerate like opinions being expressed by his entourage. How can it be admitted that prelates occupying such exalted positions should exhibit republican — i.e., antimonarchical --- tendencies, seeing that the established power in

1923: Clerical Strife

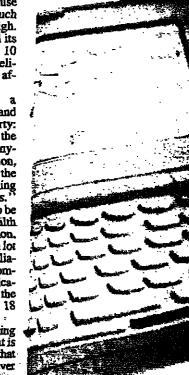
Italy is a monarchy?

WARSAW — Strife among the Orthodox clergy in Poland, re-

George Jaroszewski, a Pole who had been appointed Metropolitan of an independent Orthodox Church at Warsaw, by Mgr. Smaragd Latyshenko, who was in favor of the old obedience to the Patriarch of Moscow Mgr. Latysheuko. who is under arrest, declares that he acted from motives of personal vengeance.

1948: Finland's Place

MOSCOW - Right-wing Finnish parties were taken to task by Herta Kuusinen, Com-



Fight the Battle Against Saddam

NEW YORK - Now we are being told in television and print stories and commentary that the United States will not be able to knock out Saddam Hussein's biological warfare bombs and that the Iraqis would never use them because they could blow back in their faces.

We are told that biological weapons are scary to think about but are ineffective, so Some of all this is ignor-

ance, some of it deliberately leaves out important information and history. Saddam knows that the complete inspection system

he accepted as the price of the Gulf War cease-fire prevented him from accumulating so many weapons of mass destruction that they would ter-rify the entire Mideast and bring it under his control. So as the inspectors came

closer and closer to the chemical weapons and biological warfare capacity he built secretly for 20 years, he invited attack by the United States rather than give up trying to destroy the inspection system. Bombing has two goals: to destroy weapons from the air as inspectors would have on the ground, and to force Saddam to accept full inspection.

The information that UN

inspectors have collected over

seven years convinces them

that they know where Saddam

is hiding most of his biolog-

none and plans. And

By A. M. Rosenthal

pons without having death blow back into their faces. They know that Iraqi warheads could reach not only Israel, which has the nuclear weapon as deterrence, but also Arab states that do not.

The inspectors know that the chemical and biological sites are guarded by the same Republican Guard divisions that protect Saddam's regime. Hurt them, hurt Saddam.

For a clear summary of what UN inspectors have accomplished and what remains to be done, see the paper presented to Parliament by the British government on the Interner: www.britain-info.org.
I know no one who thinks

permanently destroy Sad-dam's lust to acquire massdeath weapons or his determination to end the inspection halter around his throat. Most of America's allies and beneficiaries and the perpetually terror-stricken Arab nations will heip him, just so

that it pays off in trade or

protects them from his fury.

that bombing the sites will

The Clinton administration shows no sign so far of pre-paring for what it knows is the only solution: the overthrow of Saddam. But the least America should do is hit hard at his weapon plants, destroy his programs and put inspection back around his neck until the last hidden weapons are found.

have to prepare Americans for the combat use of ground troops. It is getting harder to believe that he will do that unless the chance of his forced resignation is eliminated.

So making the decision on ground troops may have to wait until the next presidency, whenever it arrives. Delay will be America's penalty for the sex scandal. But one thing Bill Clinton can do at once. He can end the

years of American double-

crossing of the Iraqi opposi-

tion to Saddam. That cost them a chance to overthrow him from within. The begrayal, born of arrogantly bad judgment by the CIA, the State Department and the De-fense Department, national security advisers and the White House, is an ugly fault line through the Bush and Clinton administrations.

On Saturday, Peter Jen-nings on ABC presented an updated version of his brilliant dissection of the betrayal of the Iraqis and of the lost chance. It was shown first in June and proves that a really important piece of journalism lasts, gaining significance, not losing it. Call 1-212-456-2488 for transcripts or tapes.

I hope Mr. Clinton sits

down before that tape. It should show him that he has the opportunity and duty now to give the betrayed Iraqi opposition the arms, recognition and constancy they need to return to the battle against

munist leader, for opposing the conclusion of a friendship and defense pact with the Soviet Union Following the recent successes of the Rightists in the December municipal elections, there have been complaints about attempts to divorce Finland from the Soviet Union and

OPINION/LETTERS

Necessary

the decrease of printing at decrease of pricing and the potentially disastrons The Biff has also been urged to produce critics not to recommend the product of the best stock to the weeke to Thom charle pulp personal open This would be the region's financial open The best course. resolve in The best course is a small depositor; and leafperiod small depositors and legal must be unmount waston must be improved

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About NAT

For Old-Time Populism, Look to Hollywood

By Mark Shields

WASHINGTON — Not 100 long ago in America, our politics were about real differences. Listen to the campaign speech of the last Democratic president to win a second term, delivered to a cheering, standing-room-only crowd in New York's Madison Square Garden:

"I should like to have it said of my first administration that in it the forces of selfishness and of lust for power met their match," he thundered. "I should like to have it said of my second administration

that in it they met their master." Those were the strong words of President Franklin D. Roosevelt. In today's middle-of-the-road, balanced-budget-fixated Washington, any speaker who gave voice to words even remotely as rousing would earn for himself the scornful abuse of the Republican-Democratic establishment and an indictment for practicing, heaven forbid, "class warfare."

To see and feel the honest-togoodness passion of populist politics today, forget Washington and look to Hollywood. Go to the movies, in particular "As Good as It Gets" "Titanic" and "Good Will Hunting."

At showings of "As Good as It Gets," audiences spontaneously applaud as the heroine, played by Helen Hunt, a waitress and single mother of a young boy with asthma, explodes in frustration with the health maintenance organization that provides the care" for her sick child.

She is angry that basic tests are not covered, that test results are slow to come and not delivered by the doctor in charge, and that her son gets hurried treatment in emergency rooms rather than preventive care when he is well. She longs for a real conversation with a doctor about her son.

Health maintenance organizations, no doubt alarmed by audiences' identification with the waitress-mother and anticipating legislative action, already have assembled a defense team.

The dramatic impact of "Titanic" comes not from the spectacular watery special effects but from the powerful images of the rich and privileged passengers taking the limited spaces in halffilled lifeboats, while their fellow human beings in steerage are sentenced to drown.

But the single most powerful political moment of the season comes in "Good Will Hunting."

In this wonderful movie, the hero, a young, undereducated janitor from the blue-collar Irish neighborhood of South Boston, played by Matt Damon, possesses a photographic memory and a rare genius for math. He refuses to live up to the expectations of others, especially of an MIT math professor. and prefers to drink beer with his brawling homeboys from Southie.

Will Hunting's commitment is to his friends, as he stubbornly refuses to accept the consensus American definition of success.

In a memorable scene, the hero asks the recruiter who is eager to hire him and exploit his intellect why he should work at the National Security Agency.
The NSA official:

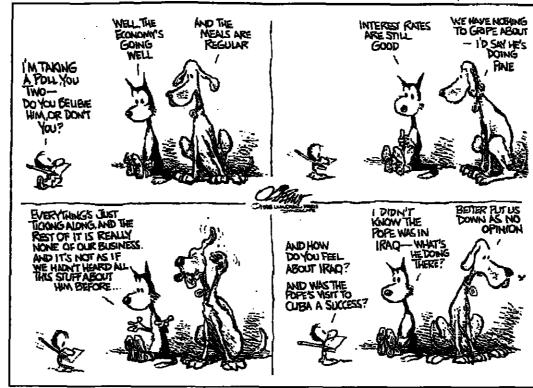
you'd be working on the cutting edge. ... The question isn't why should you work at the NSA, the question is why shouldn't you?"

To which Will responds: "That's a tough one. But I'll take a shot. Say I'm working at the NSA, and somebody puts a code on my desk. Something no one else can break. Maybe I take a shot at it, and maybe I break it. I'm really happy with myself because I did my job well. But maybe that code was the location of some rebel army in North Africa or the Middle East. And once they have the location, they bomb the village where the rebels are hiding. Fifteen hundred people that I never met, never had no problem with, get killed.

'Now the politicians are saying: 'Oh, send in the Marines to secure the area,' because they don't give a s-... It won't be their kid over there getting shot ... it will be some kid from Southie over there taking shrapnel in the a-. 'He comes back to find the

plant he used to work at got exported to the country he just got back from. And the guy who put the shrapnel in his a-got his old job because he'll work for 15 cents

a day and no bathroom breaks."
Like FDR, Will Hunting is no New Democrat. Today in Washington we essentially have two Republican parties divided by abortion. If you are looking for a real political statement about real differences, you'll find it not in Washington but in Hollywood. The Washington Post.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

U.S. Culture and Europe

Regarding "Avant-Garde Profundity Doesn't Mean Good Art" (Meanwhile, Feb. 3) and "Cinema Vérité in Europe: Rejecting U.S. Culture" (Opinion,

Dec. 16) by Richard Pells: Mr. Pells is truly missing the point when he concludes that Europeans who don't like the American movie "Pulp Fiction," or who don't want to accept the constraints of a market economy, are elitist snobs.

In reality, Europeans from Lisbon to Moscow don't want to buy into the idea that McDonald's, Disney and Microsoft will provide all their entertainment and culture. It is as simple as that.

Also, the idea that government subsidies lead to empty avantgarde art — and to empty theaters is just foolish. Most of these funds go to museums, theater companies, orchestras, ballets and so on. If these cultural institutions were to live by market forces alone, they would have to triple their ticket prices and most would go out of business in a month. This, sadly, is the case in many American cities. Is Mr. Pells suggesting that art which fails to make money is somehow invalid?

Mr. Pells should think twice about making blanket statements about the validity of art, lest he

what wasn't to be. Maybe that is what Europeans are rejecting not American culture but American hubris.

MARC FELDMAN. Paris.

In advocating wholesale conversion to capitalism, Mr. Pells shows an ignorance of and insensitivity to cultural realities in Europe. He scoffs at Polish students' unwillingness to see a Steven Spielberg film and, claiming superior entertainment and artistic values for American films, dismisses European movies as unentertaining, unprovocative and self-indulgent

The European directors who have contributed immensely to the art of film are too many to list here, but suffice it to say that Mr. Pells's comments bring to mind the words of Emperor Joseph II upon hearing a performance of Mozart's works before the Viennese court: "Too many notes."

My objection is not that Mr. Pells applauds the spread of American culture. What I object to is his glorification of philistine culture. in which the only driving force is self-aggrandizement.

Market economics might be good for the world, and especially for Eastern Europe. But making sound like a throwback to a not- economies competitive at the cost

so-distant past when those in of cultural and spiritual values power decided what was to be and would be a Pyrrhic victory. JOSE HO. Singapore.

Mr. Pells, who has been lec-

turing in Germany, Poland, Denmark and France, says that Europe's student generation is "uninspired by the entrepre-

neurial values it associates with America.' How'd he come up with that? More than 200 students fought and clawed each other last October at Warsaw University's Faculty of Law and Administration while trying to register for a com-

mercial law course.

The incidence of cheating has declined at Warsaw University, professors say, but it's just another sign of students' ruthlessness: Now students won't help each other during exams the way they did under communism.

In a recent survey of 561 Warsaw University law students, 38.5 percent said they would bribe without hesitation on behalf of a client, negotiate a bribe or find someone to do the bribing for Polish students are über-capi-

talists, more competitive and ambitious than any I've seen in the West. "Career or die" is a slogan they use only half-jokingly.

TARA McKELVEY. Warsaw.

New Orleans Wrestles With Ghosts of the Past

By Brent Staples

dancing in the streets and Cajun cooking. But beneath its festive facade, the city is having a nasty time with racial issues dating back to slavery that most American cities have long since put behind them.

The newest battle centers on a school board policy that encour-

MEANWHILE

ages schools named for slave owners to take new names, on the theory that the old names are ofstudent body.
Whites who venerate the Con-

federacy see the policy as an attack on their history — and in some cases on their own families - and have subtly worked against it.

The black community groups that launched the plan will eventually win, but they have hurt themselves by bending history and casting even reasonable critics as racists.

Meanwhile, African-American teachers and students who must approve some of the new names are attached by habit to the old ones and are in no hurry to vote

The story line is straight out of antebellum New Orleans, where the slavers and the enslaved were more closely entangled — both by blood and material aspiration than anywhere else in America.

A school named for, say, a Ku Klux Klansman would certainly bear renaming. But it is delusional on a grand scale to think that new names alone will help some of the worst urban schools in the country — or disentangle the most byzantine racial legacy in the South.

Many cities were founded on slave labor but none so utterly as New Orleans, whose seaport received loads of slaves for sugarcane farming, a brutal, life-short-

ening job. New Orleans society complicated the matter by institutionalizing relationships between white slave masters and free mulatto women who often rated lavish separate households and explicit agreements of support. At a time when it was illegal to teach Negroes to read, mixed-race chil-

NEW YORK — New Orleans dren grew up close to high culture and books.

Mulanoes became America's first black middle class. They became slave masters, too. By mid 19th century, the national census showed that, of persons of color who owned more than 50 souls each, nearly all were Louisianans who planted cane in the region around New Orleans.

Nearly half of the city's public schools were named for slave owners. Those who want the old names expunged argue that all slave masters were equally and irreparably evil and deserve fensive to a predominantly black neither forgiveness nor any place at all in the public esteem.

The view is politically understandable. But it is also simplistic. Less-affluent black slave owners often purchased relatives to keep them from being worked to death or sold into other states.

In Louisiana, the rules by which a slave could be freed changed frequently and were often difficult or expensive to comply with. At times, it was illegal to free a slave under age 30. At still other times, a freed slave had to be shipped out of the state or perhaps even to Africa. To "free" someone, then, meant to send him or her away.

This may well have been the reasoning of Marie Couvent, a black slave owner who left a great deal of money to educate Catholic Negro orphans and for whom a school was named - until her name was expunged.

The slaves she owned may well have been relatives bought for benevolent reasons. This theory is supported by the fact that her husband won freedom for at least two slaves in the State Supreme Court.

Slavery was indisputably evil. But the case is far more ambiguous when historical inquiry shifts from the practice to specific individuals.

The black electorate has a right to new names if it wants them. But given the dismal quality of many New Orleans schools, community groups have spent enormous political capital chasing ghosts. To help rebuild failing schools, they will need to make peace with a painful past and focus their energies on the here and now.

The New York Times

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In Link to Hollar

By Bernard Holland New York Tones Service

EW YORK — "It's really like Brahms," the argument goes. "You're just not used to it. Put it next to a 19th-century classic, and see how one bleeds into the other. Music has a process of evolution and a history. You haven't read the latest chapters carefully, and you should."

It's that nasty old new music again, the kind presenters don't want to put on and audiences don't want to listen to. You will love it if you make the connection, listeners are told. Know a little more, and learn that Webern drives just like Haydn, even if the grille and fins are different.

The idea makes sense, and it helps explain the gulf that exists between liking Tchaikovsky and liking Ellion Carter, in other words, the sense of separation common to our present-day music-appreciation quandaries. Indeed, it has made sense for a couple of generations, even though it doesn't work.

Granted, we are "used to" a body of 20th-century music: the Russian and neoclassical Stravinsky, great hunks of the Bartok repertory, Berg's operas, Schoenberg's "Pierrot Lunaire." Other important music of the time corroborates our old evolutionary theory. Shostakovich, Janacek and Strauss have original personalities, but they speak in up-dated dialects. They are continuations or appendices to Beethoven and Wagner.

The 19th century gave us empires; the 20th took them away. Music is more stubborn. Tradition crumbles; it speaks in final colonial gasps, but the past does not want to go away. It colors the way we listen to everything written since.

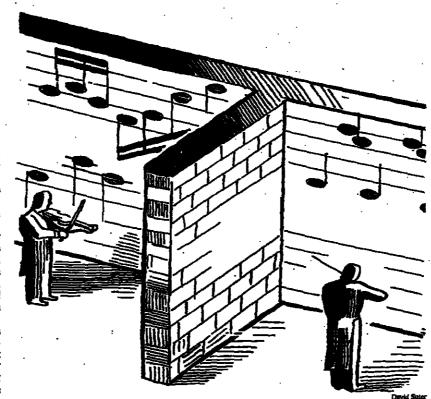
Chopin ringing in its ears, strenuously rejects so much music. You would think that it would be used to Berg's Three Pieces for Orchestra after almost 75 years, but how often do they appear in

subscription programs?
It's a wonderful work if you can hear it in the right place. And this may be the problem, that our idea of context is all wrong. Maybe in the case of music, the cause-and-effect story of evolution doesn't work. Maybe those vaunted connections to Brahms exist mainly in the minds of musicologists.

Let's rewrite history and, for the sake of oversimplification, assume that music stopped dead in its tracks in the first part of this century and then started over again from scratch. It's hard to argue, at any rate, that a lot of pieces written since the 1920s and '30s come from any planet Schumann ever lived on.

Let's assume that some of the "difficult" music of our time has not failed the past - or suffered from the failure of present audiences - but has little to do with the past at all, that it continues little of traditions but instead posits a ground zero, or a number of ground zeros.

CCEPT that as a general, but in no way foolproof, rule, and we can rearrange our concert Drograms, as a lot of wise presenters and musicians are already starting to do. Put Messiaen's "Turangalila" next to Saint-Saens's "Danse Macabre" or Conlon Nancarrow's player-piano music next to Schumann's 'Papillons,' and I predict a thousand sets of jangled nerves and enough alienation to sink the "Titanic." Put Mes-



siaen together with Nancarrow, and Saint-Saens with Schumann, and you have two reasonably civilized worlds.

I started to think this way two summers ago, after the summer week of contemporary music at the Tanglewood festival in Lenox, Massachusetts. Morning, afternoon and evening, radical languages were set next to one another. No overt references to the past here, not a six-four chord or a Neapolitan sixth in sight, no Mozart to keep the sense of history going.

These distinctly modern languages became the natural discourse for a sensible musical life. Wandering afterward to the Boston Symphony's concerts in the Shed made Beethoven

sound almost weird. There are signs that young people

respond well to unadulterated helpings of the present. The conductor Robert Spano and his Brooklyn Philharmonic put Messiaen and Arvo Part together not long ago, and big audiences loved it.

So let's hear it for musical ghettos. Keeping people separated because they are different produces bad results, but in music I'm not so sure that is so. The early-music movement does this already, though mainly because its instruments refer to a specific time and repertory, and don't always work in music from other periods.

Let the Romantics continue to work their inexhaustible magic. Let new music live a healthy life of its own. Anyone who says that Donald Martino shares an inch of common ground with Rimsky-Korsakov just isn't listening.

Encores! spawned the hit revival of

"Chicago" during a four-performance run in May 1996, a production directed

by the series' former artistic director,

Walter Bobbie, that not only was

shipped almost intact to Broadway, but

also provided a complete makeover for

the reputation of a musical that in the

The First Plays: Life Before Fame Where Mamet's Coming From

By Sheridan Morley ional Herald Tribune

ONDON - Around the London fringe, it was an unusually strong week for the local premieres of first plays by now distinguished American dramatists. At the Lyric Hammersmith Studio, is

"Lakeboat," written by David Mamet when, back in the late 1960s, he was a college student and spending one summer vacation working on the mer vacation working on the LONDON boats that carried steel and even THEATER Amazingly secure for a first script, this is a wry and wonderfully observant look at eight mail across the Great Lakes. men flung together on an ancient craft. Mamet finds in his crew a whole

series of richly detailed character portraits, and already, some six years be-fore "American Buffalo," it is clear that he was fast developing his own brand of rapid-fire, cross-purpose dia-logue, the kind that comes at you as out

of a machine gun.

There's no real plot here, just eight men in conversations and monologues trying to make some hesitant kind of sense out of their lost opportunities, friendships and in some cases lives. Through their spare, sparse chatter we get a real sense of the two officers, five seamen and the uneasy but fascinated college boy who is clearly Mamet himself. These men are every bit as wasted as the salesmen of "Glengarry Glen Ross," only here there is no real competition, just a bleak sense of loss.

In Aaron Mullen's wondrous production, Brian Greene and Jim Dunk lead a strong cast across Melanie Al-

ppiah Gets
ift on Talk len's superb re-creation of the decks and

* Set Rate galley.
"Lakeboat" is not only interesting and important for what it shows us of the way Marnet was headed, it is also a crackingly dramatic and observant piece that would have been well worth staging even if Mamet had never written another script.

At the Old Red Lion in Islington, we have the European premiere of "Blue Window" by Craig Lucas, who, con-

window" by Craig Lucas, who, considering he wrote such pieces as "Reckless," "Longtime Companion" and "Prelude to a Kiss," ought to be rather better known over here than he is. This is a play written 12 years ago about the Manhattan cocktail party from hell, and it is in many ways side by side without Sondheim: Lucas

side by side without Sondheim; Lucas was his collaborator on "Marry Me a Little" and he remains so close to the high-rise urban angst of Sondheim's Manhattan that "Blue Window" often just seems to be "Company" without

It is an 80-minute conversational bat-tlefield in which six ill-assorted guests and their hostess explore the borderline that separates manic ego-trip from out-and-out nervous breakdown. We get the usual assortment of New York neurotics, but the problem is that both Woody Allen and Sondheim have covered this territory so comprehensively that all we are really left with is a series of semianimated New Yorker cartoons. Although Joe Harmston does his agile best to crosscut these unfulfilled lives on a tiny stage, by and large he has failed to attract players with enough talent or charisma to make us care about their endless self-absorption. Unless of course you count the unseen unfortunate who falls off a high-rise balcony only to be crushed to death by his girlfriend on the sidewalk below; somehow I wanted to know more about that, and less about the rest of it.

And finally, at the Bush, Snoo Wilson's "Sabina" is a brave but ultimately ham-handed attempt to invade red, of "Sunset Boulevard" last year on the territory of Terry Johnson's "Hysteria" or even Tom Stoppard's "Travesties." As in the first of these, we have Freud as a central character, and as in the second, we are in Zurich around the time of the World War I. But there, alas, all resemblance ends; whereas Stoppard and Johnson wrote brilliant psychological comedies about the meeting of unlikely philosophic minds, Wilson comes up with a manic kind of stripcartoon in which Freud. Jung and their assorted womenfolk play out a bedroom farce of truly stunning inadequacy.

The disappointment here is considerable, because six months ago, in a play about the exiled Duke and Duchess of Windsor called "HRH." Wilson did manage to pull off a brilliant mix of history and social satire. This time it has all gone horribly wrong, because never for a moment can we care about these Jung ones or their inability to make sense of their lives, even while offering unsound psychological advice

to others. At the heart of Andy Wilson's un-derstandably confused and increasingly desperate production there seems to have once been a very good story: that of the title character, Sabina, who, having apparently driven both Jung and Freud to distraction on and off both bed and couch, finished up in charge of a Russian orphanage before being killed by retreating Germans in World War II. There must be a mini-series in there somewhere, but Wilson has instead chosen to tell only the first half of her amazing adventures and even then in so deeply incheate and muddled a fashion that we are left with random ramblings around the birth of psychoanalysis without any kind of focus or

central energy.
Paul McGann as Jung and Susan Vidler in the title role both manage to suggest from time to time that something coherent might be about to happen, but the rest of the cast ends up totally defeated, and you'll learn a lot more from the highly informative and erudite program notes about the early years of psychoanalysis and the Jung- v Freud rivalry than you ever will from the play Wilson has so signally failed to build around them.

Broadway Musicals the Way They Used to Sound

By Peter Marks New York Times Service

TEW YORK — The charge I used to get from new musicals, I now get mainly from old ones.

But please, don't write me off as a "Fiddler"/"Dolly"/"La Mancha"-loving fuddy-duddy. By old, I don't mean the mostly charmless, overproduced musical revivals that settle on Broadway each year. No, the shows that remind me of the Broadway I grew up with are not

Broadway productions at all. They materialize, three a season, on three weekends from February to May, and bubble for just a little longer than uncorked magnums of champagne.

What I refer to, of course, is the Encores! Great American Musicals in Concert series at City Center, which may be the closest thing to show-tune chic that the New York theater world has ever produced. In the remarkably brief span of four years — and a total of just 51 performances — Encores! has

archive with its robust musical-theater past, an indispensable showcase for the words and music of the writers, from the Gershwins to Rodgers and Hart to Kander and Ebb, who created, nurtured and refined the American musical through the years of its artistic ascension, beginning in the 1920s.

Already widely imitated — a concert

musical program has been started in Los Angeles, and officials of the Kennedy Center have contacted City Center for just 51 performances — Encores! has advice on a Washington spinoff — the established itself as the city's interactive series is enormously popular.

would,

in time,

was also to support William,

in the then conventional

wifely mode, offering endless

band and their growing array

part, loved his family, but he

was always running away

from it, to Europe, say, to

recuperate from the ravages

of the term and to hide out

Alice, as Simon repeatedly

observes, bore the brunt. Har-

vard also helped to save Wil-

liam James. He picked up a

lectureship there and showed

that he could actually behave

maturely when he stepped in-

to a role that took maturity for

granted. He was a marvelous

teacher — amiable, original

and rigorous -- and took par-

ticular interest in his most

waywardly gifted students,

whom he brought home to tea

and to be fussed over a little

With his personal life squared away, William went

on to success, though con-

spicuously late success. He

published his first major

book, "Principles of Psychol-

birthday. Having defined the

field of psychology, or at least

the American version of it, he

then pulled up stakes and

went off to do major work as a

theorist of religion and as a

philosopher. Adapting ideas

from Charles Sanders Peirce,

he founded the only major

al school, pragmatism.

Washington Post.

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digenous U.S. philosophic-

Mark Edmundson, profes-

sor of English at the University of Virginia and the au-

thor of "Nightmare on Main Street," wrote this for The

just before his 50th

by Alice.

stroying illnesses.

BOOKS

GENUINE REALITY: A Life of William James

By Linda Simon. 467 pages. \$35, Harcourt Brace. Reviewed by Mark Edmundson

WILLIAM JAMES is one of the great American success stories. Things began inauspiciously enough. His go relatively sane. young life was a disaster. But he went on to win major distinction as a psychologist, a or state; rather they were naicler of the varieties of religious experience. He also be- Henry Sr. was impossible. He came an exemplary American whose combination of human-dictory things at once. The ity and intellectual prowess eldest child was to be both continues to exert vast appeal to many teachers who have followed him up to the lectern

revered intellectual. The son of a very rich, very peculiar Christian philosopher, Henry James Sr., William was a sharp-minded.

The New York Times
This list is based on reports from more
than 2,000 bookstores throughout the
United States. Weeks on list are not

FICTION

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2 COLD MOUNTAIN, by

Charles Frazier
3 FEAR NOTHING, by Dean

4 A CERTAIN JUSTICE, by P.D. James 5 THE WINNER, by David

Baldacci.
6 CAT & MOUSE, by James Patterson.
7 THE INVESTIGATORS, by W.E.B. Griffia

GEISHA, by Anbur

10 THEN CAME HEAVEN,

II THE GHOST, by Danielle

12 SHARP EDGES, by Jayne

13 CUBA LIBRE by Elmon

14 THE LETTER by Richard

Paul Evans.
15 THE MASTERHARPER
OF PERN, by Anne

NONFICTION

I TALKING TO HEAVEN, by

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2 THE MILLIONAIRE
NEXT DOOR, by Thomas
1, Stanley and William D.
Danko

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BEST SELLERS

century America's

Simon's well-written, well- years. paced biography is how much insight she gives us into James's family background. William had to contend with

in his effort to break free and

The Jameses, it's been remarked, were from no nation philosopher, and as a chron-tives of a peculiar, mobile tribe, the James family. pious and free in his thinking; respondent to the letter of his father's authority, yet with a and into the seminar room. All steely independence of will; in all, James was early 20th- to follow in his father's professional footsteps, yet to find his own thing — as Emerson, a family friend, advised all

and sundry - and to do it. No surprise then that as William arrived at college competitive boy who lorded it age a sequence of major crises over his brother Henry, the set in. William's crises were

J ANGELA'S ASHES, by

Frank McCourt.
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GARDEN OF GOOD
AND EVIL. by John

Berendi TUESDAYS WITH MORRIE, by Misch

Albom INTO THIN AIR, by Jon

Krakauer THE PERFECT STORM, by

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by Monty Roberts.
9 CITIZEN SOLDIERS, by

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Stephen E. Ambrose
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WITH GOD: Book 1, by
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11 THE RAFE OF NANKING,
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CELESTINE
VISION, by James
Redfield.
13 THE DARK SIDE OF
CAMELOT. by Seymour
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14 DIRTY JOKES AND
BEER by Drew Carey

15 PILLAR OF FIRE, by

1 SIMPLE ABUNDANCE, by Sarah Ban Breathrach 2 DON'T WORRY, MAKE MONEY, by Richard

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WOMEN ARE FROM VENUS by John Gay....... 4 JOY OF COOKING, by Irma S. Rombauer, Marrion

Rombauer Becker and Bijnn Recker....

ADVICE, HOW-TO AND MISCELLANEOUS

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be, and his other, conspicu- for their intensity and for the ously less gifted siblings. One fact that they rolled on in-something of himself. She of the distinctions of Linda termittently for about 15

He wanted to be a painter.

No, he'd like to try medicine. solicitude both for her husnatural science Perhans Reading her, one comes to would do. He had money and of children. William, for his understand just how much connections as well as talent, so he could readily convert his impulses into serious apprenticeships. There was a trip to Brazil with the famed zoologist Louis Agassiz, a so- from the children's peace-dejourn in Europe to paint, a study of this and that at Harvard. Blown by the sudden gusts of his father's judgment seemed to want William to be and his own mercurial, inuniversity professor, a figure all of a number of contra- decisive temper, William was in a long-term state of dis-

FOR the Jameses illness was a family preoccupation. William once moved back home to find his brother Henry suffering from back pain, constipation and low spirits; his sister Alice was recovering from a breakdown. William himself had serious depression to nurse. It got so bad that he once saw his own image in the person future novelist; his sister not entirely unlike other of a poor mental patient, Alice, the brilliant diarist to men's youthful trials, except prone to fits, with sallow skin and a wasted, wanting look. It was shortly afterward, William reports, that he gathered up what was left of his resolve and proclaimed that his first gesture of free will would be to commit himself to the doctrine that the will was, of necessity, free. "My first act of free will shall be to believe in

A few things besides the newfound belief in free will collaborated to save William James. The first was his marriage to Alice Howe Gibbens. She was strong in her reli-gious faith and in her conviction that her husband

"Chorus Line"-crazed year of 1975 had been mistakenly consigned by critics and audiences to also-ran status. As "Chicago" demonstrated, the modestly staged City Center shows -each Encores! run, boosted last season to five performances, costs about \$380,000 per show -- can have an outsize impact on the theater business. Each production simply a reconsideration; it's an

audition. Any number of musical talents have received high-voltage jolts to their careers as a result of their appearances in Encores! productions. Two young actresses, Melissa Errico and Rebecca Luker, probably owe their starring roles in the forthcoming Broad-way musicals, "High Society" and "The Sound of Music," to Encores! triumphs, Errico in the 1996 staging of

"One Touch of Venus," Luker in last

'season's "Boys From Syracuse." When Christine Baranski drew raves for a cameo last year in "Promises, Promises," there was an immediate find-that-woman-a-musical buzz on producers' cell phones. That show, especially, was widely viewed as a pre-Broadway tryout, both for the 1968 Burt Bacharach-Hal David-Neil Simon musical (based on the film "The Apartment") and its star, Martin Short.

But the enthusiasm waned after many who saw it decided that, among other things, the substantial cringe factor in the show's pre-feminist sensibility made it too dated for commercial success.

None of the people who created the nonprofit series, of course, envisioned it as a dry run for the profit-making theater. But a crossover was inevitable. Encores!, which stresses the light touch of dialogue and song over the heavy fist of pulsing beat and visual effects, came along at just the right moment in the evolution of taste. The musical spectacle, in the hands of

such wizards as Lloyd Webber and Cameron Mackintosh, was beginning to seem a bit tired; the closing, deep in the

20 Valentine

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Broadway was the leading indicator of a change in the mega-musical's fortunes. Encores! is the anti-spectacle. (Hard to

imagine the concert version of "Cats," isn't it?) Encores! wasn't the first series to celebrate vintage musicals, the 92d Street Y is in the 28th season of its Lyrics and Lyricists anthology, and City Center officials acknowledge a debt to Ian Marshall Fisher, who runs an acclaimed barebones version of Encores! at the Barbican Center in London.

But Encores! has struck a particularly satisfying balance between serious pursuit and serendipitous presentation, a blending of the quintessential New York interests in historic preservation and high-stepping pizzazz.

On a stage with only the most rudimentary set, actors and dancers run through an Encores! performance, scripts in hand. Clutching black binders, the performers remind us that with a Broadway show, in the beginning is the Word.

OME people assume actors have a contractual obligation to hold onto the books: All are paid a standard \$700 a week for two weeks of rehearsal and performance. But Judith Daykin, City Center's president and executive director, says one of the reasons the practice is required is that some actors who have gone on without scripts have dropped whole stanzas of songs.

Rather than an audience distraction, the requirement adds to the evening's charm, to a sense that every page is being turned for the very first time. Indeed, the material chosen in the first five seasons, initially by Bobbie and his consulting committee, now by the new artistic director, Kathleen Marshall and a panel of experts, often bears an unexpected freshness.

This season's offerings continue the series' tradition of surprise: in addition to "Strike Up the Band," they include "Li'l Abner," a 1956 live-action comic book with music by Gene de Paul, lyrics by Johnny Mercer and book by Norman Panama and Melvin Frank, and "St. Louis Woman," a 1946 show featuring Harold Arlen's music, Mercer's lyrics and a book by Arna Bontemps and

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But Analysts See Failure For Any Link to Dollar

> By Keith Richburg Vashington Post Service

JAKARTA — The long-suffering rupiah had a surprisingly strong rally Tuesday, lifting other regional currencies amid growing speculation that President Suharto was moving toward setting up a Hong Kong-style currency board to regulate the country's exchange rate.

But analysts around the region expressed doubt that this represented a turnaround in the economic crisis.

The dollar finished at 7,900 rupiah in local trading, down from 9,575 rupiah at the close of trading Monday.

The rupiah's show of strength pushed up other beleaguered currencies, including the Thai baht, the Philippine peso and Malaysian ringgir.

Analysts said the rupiah's strong

showing had been caused by speculators

Cash-rich Indonesian firm holds out on international creditors. Page 15.

hedging bets in case the government did go ahead with establishing a currency board.

[A World Bank spokesman said the organization was discouraging Mr. Suharto from creating a currency board, Bloomberg News reported.

[James Wolfensohn, president of the lending agency, counseled Mr. Suharto against the idea last week, the spokesman said, adding, "Our advice was, this is not something we recommend at this time; it's not something that's big" on the World Bank's agenda for Indonesia.]

Few analysts seemed to consider such a currency board feasible here because, unlike Hong Kong, Indonesia is heavily indebted and lacks the foreign-exchange reserves needed to back a rupiah "peg" to the dollar. But remarks Mon-day by Mr. Suharto suggested that he was moving in that direction.

"No one is certain it's going to hap-pen, but there's a shot at it," said David Cohen, senior economist with Standard & Poor's Corp. in Singapore. "If you conceivably think they're going to peg it at 5,000 to the dollar — and yesterday it was 9,500 — then more than one person

will be tempted to take the plunge."

But, given the rupiah's volatility over recent weeks, he added, the dollar "could easily go back to 10,000 again."

The Jakarta stock market appeared

unimpressed by the rupiah's rally, with the benchmark index finishing down 2.18 percent at 517.70 points.

Few analysts around the region said they thought the rupiah's rally Tuesday would be sustained. Even if a currency board were set up, many deemed it unlikely it could maintain a pegged rupiah against a concerted assault by speculators; at the least, they said, the move could end up creating a massive black market for currency.

More important, analysts said, Indonesia's unsettled political landscape remains fundamentally unchanged, with Mr. Subarto, 76, still likely to reelected to another term next month and with no succession plan in place and so far no choice for vice president announced. Any number of events — more rioting in the provinces, a new outbreak of violence in Jakarta or the naming of a vice president deemed unacceptable by the markets - could trig-

ger a further collapse, they said.

The rupiah's rally faded in New York trading, with the dollar slipping only to 9,500 rupiah from 9,550 rupiah Monday. The dollar also fell to 47.60 baht from 48.05 baht, to 39.00 pesos from 39.90 pesos and to 3.5277 ringgit from

3.8380 ringgit.
Even in Jakarra, the rally still left the rupiah down 69 percent from where it was last summer, when the rate was 2,432 to the dollar.

The same is true of other currencies. The baht has fallen nearly 45 percent since mid-1997, the peso has lost nearly 33 percent of its value, and the ringgit has dropped more than 31 percent.



Dan Byong Ho, right, and other leaders of the confederation Tuesday.

ECONOMIC SCENE

Pacific Ties Percent of 1996 U.S. exports going to Pacific Rim



Oregon





Asian Crisis Sends Ripples To the U.S. West Coast

By William Claiborne Washington Post Service

LOS ANGELES -- California and its neighbors in the Pacific Northwest have discovered that their dependency on once-booming Pacific Rim trade may have some drawbacks as the Asian monetary crisis ripples across the ocean.

California in particular, with barely time to savor an export-based comeback from the worst downturn since the Depression, faces an uncertain future once again for its newly restructured economy because of the volatile markets and weakened currencies in Asia.

The drop in value of Asian currencies against the dollar means U.S. products cost more in the West Coast's Asian markets, and already some exporters say they are beginning to feel the pinch as competitors from other nations move in with cheaper goods.

Also, the ability of some cash-strapped

Asian nations to pay for goods or services for which they have already contracted has become a question mark for some U.S. industries, particularly defense contractors and aircraft manufacturers and their extensive West Coast operations.

Deputy Treasury Secretary Lawrence Summers warned last week that the nation was likely to feel "real" effects from the economic turmoil in Asia, while economists have cautioned that the full extent of the fallout remains unclear.

But California, the leading exporting state, at more than \$100 billion a year, does more than half its export business with Asian countries, already deepening whatever clouds the crisis sends across the Pacific.

Economists at the California Finance Department have predicted that the Asian slowdown could cost the state up to 65,000 new nonagricultural jobs this year, or about a sixth of the increase expected for the year. California ex-porters thus are beginning to find that the lucrative trade with Pacific Rim nations can be almost as undependable as the Cold War defense contracts that made up the backbone of the state's economy

in the go-go years of the 1980s.

Similarly, Washington state exports about \$30 billion a year in goods, of which more than half goes to Asia, and about one-fourth of its jobs are linked to

trade. Oregon exports more than \$10 billion in goods, also with about half being shipped to Asia.

Despite the fears of a slowdown, most economists interviewed were sanguine about the region's long-term prospects because, they said, its growth mo-mentum is so strong. In addition, off-setting factors will probably soften the impact of the Asian crisis, they said. These include increased sales here of cheaper Asian imports, including Japanese cars, whose faster turnover in showrooms would generally help bolster the economy. Economists also cited the likelihood of stable interest rates. a strong real estate market and the ability of many manufacturers to shift their exports from depressed Asian markets to Latin America and elsewhere.

In California, Silicon Valley, with its concentration of high-technology manufacturing, is expected to bear the brunt of the Asian slowdown. But other regions of the state, from the Central Valley and its huge agribusinesses to Southem California and its aircraft plants, are also bracing for a falloff in trade.

Some Asia-bound oil tankers have turned back to the Los Angeles and Long Beach ports with full loads because of canceled orders, shipping officials said. Also, some cargo ships are leaving the twin ports with less than full loads because of the depressed Asian markets.

When the price to the buyer goes up, you get customers who can't pay," said Jay Winter, executive director of the Steamship Association of Southern California. "There's a very depressed freight rate westbound."

The exports most affected so far, he

said, are such commodities as alfalfa. cotton and wastepaper, which trade on thin margins.

Economists said that next to California, Washington state is likely to be affected the most among the West Coast states because it is so trade-oriented.

Seattle-based Boeing Co., the nation's biggest exporter, has not reported losing any orders from Asian airlines, but a Malaysian airline has sought to delay delivery of 19 new aircraft that it ordered and Philippine Airlines reportedly is ne-gotiating to delay delivery of seven jets. Philippine Airlines said it had scrapped plans to order four additional aircraft.

Feb. 10

Seoul Labor Group Renounces Pact

Unions to Strike Unless Chaebol Take Bigger Role in Lifting Economy

By Stephanie Strom New York Times Service

SEOUL — An agreement to legalize layoffs that was hammered out last week by business, government and labor leaders and hailed as a major victory for President-elect Kim Dae Jung is foundering after a major labor federation threatened to stage a general strike

unless it was renegotiated.
The Korean Confederation of Trade Unions, which represents 500,000 workers at some of South Korea's biggest companies, said its members would go on strike Friday unless the proposed legislation was revised to place more of the burden of restructuring South Korea's economy on the huge conglomerates, or chaebol, whose ambitious expansion plans are widely regarded as the chief cause of the country's problems.

"The law is not in any way perceived by workers to provide them protection but rather to give employers the power to

international secretary of the confederation, which is the more militant of South Korean's two large labor federations.

He said preparations for an indefinite strike would continue until the government agreed to renegotiate the pro-posed law, which would allow layoffs in exchange for better unemployment benefits, the establishment of a union to represent teachers and reform of the corporate sector.

The confederation's leadership, which accepted the proposed law, stepped down late Monday after the rank and file, led by unions representing workers at the Hyundai group of companies, voted by a 3-to-1 margin to reject it.

Dan Byung Ho, a longtime labor leader and head of the Korean Fed-eration of Metal Workers Unions, was chosen to take over leadership of the confederation. The government has refused to renegotiate the law, and the nation's largest organized labor group.

dismiss them," said Yoon Young Mo, the Federation of Korean Trade Unions, said it stood by its commitment to the agreement made Friday.

'We will not follow them because we already accepted the terms," said Noh Jin Kwi, senior director of policy and planning at the federation.

Private analysts regarded the confederation's threat as a negotiating tactic, although the South Korean stock market seemed to take it more seriously and fell 2.2 percent Tuesday. "I don't discount the possibility that

there will be strikes, but I don't think that you'll see strikes on the French order, where highway traffic is disrup-ted and the whole country comes to a grinding halt," said Richard Samuelson, branch manager and head of research at SBC Warburg Dillon Read in Seoul. "Work stoppages, yes, even demonstrations, but nothing severe."

Mr. Samuelson and others will be

See WON, Page 15

Dow Sets Record as Asia Worries Ease

NEW YORK - The stock market barreled back to record territory Tuesday after a six-month slump dominated by unresolved worries about troubling economic conditions overseas and their

impact on U.S. companies,
The Dow Jones industrial average closed 115.09 points higher at a record 8.295.61, well above its previous best close of 8,259,31 reached last Aug. 6. The broader Standard & Poor's 500 index also set a record, closing 8.27 points higher at 1.019.01.

Gaining issues swamped losing ones by a 2-to-1 ratio on the New York

Stock Exchange.

Analysts said worries about the impact of the Asian crisis had been chased away by a string of solid corporate earnings reports over the past quarter.

"It's not so much the good news, but the lack of bad news," said Robert Froehlich at Scudder Kemper Funds. What's causing this market to skyrocket is that as of the close vesterday, 67 percent of the S&P 500 companies had reported earnings, and they either beat or met their expectations." Investors got more good news from President Bill Clinton's annual economic report to Congress, which said the U.S. economy was well positioned to withstand some buffeting from

Asia's financial turmoil. "Our economy is strong, our prosperity is deep, our prospects are bright," Mr. Clinton said.

The report suggested that Asia's turmoil may offer the silver lining of

U.S. STOCKS

slowing the United States' rapid recent growth and thereby reducing the chances of U.S. interest rates rising.

"As 1998 begins, we find that the prospects for continued growth with igh employment and low inflation are excellent," said Janet Yellen, who chairs the White House Council of Economic Advisers.

The U.S. economy's growth in 1997, 3.9 percent, was the strongest in nine years; the year's average unemployment rate, 4.9 percent, was the lowest in 24 years, and inflation, at 1.7 percent, was the lowest in 11 years.

Data released Tuesday added to the rosy economic scenario. The Labor Department said Americans' productivity, the key measure of how quickly living standards could rise, increased 1.7 percent in 1997 after a 1.9 percent rise the vear before.

Productivity measures the output per hour of work. Its sluggish growth from the mid-1970s through the mid-1990s was viewed as the root of many economic problems, including sluggish income growth and widening eco-

nomic inequality.

Conversely, the pickup in the past two years is held out as an explanation for the peaceful coexistence of robust economic growth and low inflation. Healthy productivity gains mean employers can pay workers more without raising prices.

International Business Machines and Hewlett-Packard led the Dow higher. Technology issues were particularly hard-hit during the Asialinked sell-off, and many are seen as bargains now. IBM gained 21/2 to close at 100%, while Hewlett-Packard rose

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Is Downsizing Ebbing? White-Collar Jobs Come Back

subjective.

By Louis Uchitelle

NEW YORK - Month after month, the S. Labor Department reports the creation of hundreds of thousands of new jobs. The latest report showed that 358,000 were added in January, even as the economy showed signs of weakening.

Where are all these jobs? While low-wage work is one source, a new study finds that well-paid middle managers and other upper-level office workers are being hired in big

The study, issued Tuesday, challenges two widely held views about the work force. One is that corporate downsizing has decimated middle-level management. Downsizing has indeed been widespread, but hiring has outpaced the layoffs, the study found.

The other challenge is to the concept that corporate America is starved for people highly skilled in technology. The real draw for the college graduate is an upper-level office job, not a job that requires education in science and technology.

Of all the jobs created since 1989, a total of 37 percent have been for "business pro-fessionals and managers," the study said. That was up from 20 percent of the new jobs

These are the middle-level executives, the bankers, accountants, brokers, sales account representatives, insurance agents, advertising and public relations specialists, financial officers, analysts, buyers, personnel managers and data processors who occupy America's education, with its emphasis on analysis and

ubiquitous office towers. Their annual pay averaged a healthy \$46,000 in the Hiring of new middle mid-1990s. managers in the 1990s "The decision-making

has outpaced the lavoffs. structure in a global econonry demands these people," said Steven Rose, senior economist at Educational Testing Service, and a co-author of the study. "It takes less and less to produce a product or service, but more and more to promote it,

consumer-friendly, deal with style and convenience. No firm feels it can cut back without losing market share.' The new study's message, not surprisingly, is that college graduates populate the new professional and managerial class and, thus,

manage the process, customize it, make it

get the highest-paying jobs, without high-technology knowledge.

Indeed, these jobs place a premium on tasks that a generation ago often did not require a college education, Mr. Rose and his co-author acknowledge.

jobs," said Anthony Carnevale, the co-author and a vice president at Educational Testing Service. "A case can be made for a liberal arts

problem solving, although companies seem to prefer people who have taken business courses. "

This study, as do most

that try to explain labor force dynamics, relies on Labor Department data. What sets it apart is the decision to rearrange workers into the authors' own set of occupations and functions. The goal was to more accurately reflect reality, but some labor economists said the study's classifications were arbitrary and

Front-office managers at a steel mill, or a computer manufacturer, or a restaurant chain, for example, are included in the new category of business professionals and managers. But supervisors on the mill or factory floor probably earning less — are excluded, as are managers of McDonald's restaurants.

Accountants, insurance agents and brokers qualify as office professionals, but not most engineers, scientists, architects, computer

"Our study raises basic questions about system analysts and technicians. Unless they what these people need to know to do their have shifted to the office environment, they are classified as production people. From all the tabulation, these findings

• Of the 69 million new jobs created from 1959 through 1995, the last year in the study, 34 million, or 49 percent, fell into the new business professional and manager class. The category reached a high for a single decade of 39 percent in the 1980s, as the global economy took shape, and edged down slightly, to 37 percent, in the 1990s.

· Average wages, which had risen through the 1980s for managers and professionals, fell slightly in the 1990s. Mr. Rose said. Wages were a casualty of the downsizing in management ranks. "Corporations tried to cut costs, but they also needed these people, and they ended up hiring more managers and professionals than they fired," he said.

 Among prime-age workers, 30 to 59, the new office sector accounted for 41 percent of all employment, up from 30 percent in 1959. In addition, business professionals and managers pocketed half of the earnings of all workers, excluding those earning more than \$200,000 a year. Their average pay in 1995 was "47 percent more than the average earnings of workers in all the other sectors," the study said.

Very briefly:

• Columbia/HCA Healthcare Corp. engaged in a "billing fraud scheme" involving Columbia hospitals throughout the United States, investigators said in newly unsealed court records. Unsealed portions of an affidavit filed by an FBI special agent in Tampa, Florida, also detail aspects of the government's investigation of Columbia/HCA's hospitals in El Paso, Texas, and in Florida.

• Time Warner Inc.'s net profit in the fourth quarter rose to \$216 million from \$59 million a year earlier as strength in its publishing and cable operations and a gain from the sale of Hasbro Inc. stock offset weakness in its music business. Time Warner also said it was selling its Six Flags theme-park unit to Premier Parks Inc. and a partner in a deal valued at \$965

• Pioneer Natural Resources Co. plans to sell U.S. oil and natural gas fields it values at \$350 million to \$550 million as part of a plan to cut costs and focus on more profitable

 McDonald's Corp. is buying a minority stake in World Foods Inc., which owns the Chipotle Mexican Grill chain of 14 burrito restaurants in the Denver area. McDonald's said it would remain focused on expanding its hamburger restaurant Bloomberg, Reuters

Citibank Freezes Thai Bank Deal

BANGKOK - Citibank said Tuesday that it had suspended its review of First Bangkok City Bank of Thailand,. which was seized by the government last week.

Citibank, a unit of New York-based Citicorp, said it could not comment on whether it still wanted to buy a stake in the Thai bank. It said in November that it planned to buy at least 50.1 percent of First Bangkok.

The central bank took control of First Bangkok on Friday after it missed a deadline for a recapitalization.

Japan's Plan **Benefits Yen**

Bloomberg News

NEW YORK - The dollar fell against the yen Tuesday amid speculation that new measures by the governing Liberal Democratic Party would lift the Japanese economy out of its seven-year slump.

Tokyo will unveil a plan next week to boister land and stock prices, according to a draft of the proposal. Hopes for such a stimulus have lifted he yen 8 percent in the past month. "It's not surprising that the yen is strong," said John DeBeer of

FOREIGN EXCHANGE

Loomis Sayles & Co. "The reforms are significant." In 4 P.M. trading, the dollar was down to 123.20 yen from 124.15 yen Monday.
"There are expectations that the

Japanese government will take the necessary measures to shore up the "That's helping the yen."

A draft of the Liberal Democrats'

economic package, to be unveiled the day before finance ministers of the Group of Seven leading indus-would peg it to a more stable cur-from 1.4653 francs. The pound trialized nations meet in London on rency, but the Indonesian currency slipped to \$1.6258 from \$1.6295. the Group of Seven leading indus-



CUDDLY COMPUTERS — A New York girl, 4, chatting with interactive dolls equipped by Microsoft Corp. The dolls, based on characters from a TV series, "Arthur," go on sale soon.

land held as collateral for bad loans. The party has said it will use a mix of tax cuts and public spending to pump economy," said Keisuke Aso of 5 trillion yen (\$40.3 billion) into the Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi Ltd. economy. Traders also snapped up yen amid signs that market turmoil in Asia may be coming to an end.

The rupiah surged in Asian trad-

Feb. 21, includes provisions to buy gave up most of its gains later.

land held as collateral for bad loans. The dollar fell to 1.8072 Deutsche marks from 1.8165 DM, weighed down by speculation that calls to

postpone Europe's planned economic and monetary union could extend the mark's role as Europe's benchmark currency. The dollar also fell to 6.0605 French francs from 6.0908 ing on speculation that Jakarta francs and to 1:4607 Swiss francs

Boeing, Woes Behind Us,' Weighs Venture in Europe rival, for seeking government aid to

BRUSSELS - Boeing Co. said Tuesday that the production problems faced by the company last year able to manufacture this many were now over and the group was

expecting to expand in Europe.
"Our production problems are behind us," Ronald Woodard, president of Boeing's Commercial Avi-ation Group, said. "We're studying some joint ventures in Europe, and we hope we can bring more engine business to Europe.'

Boeing announced in October that production difficulties had reduced third-quarter earnings by \$1.6 billion, with an additional \$1 billion in charges to be spread over the next five quarters.

The company said parts shortages, an influx of inexperienced workers and a design flaw in the next-generation 737 model had played havoc with its production sequence and forced Boeing to halt work for about a month on two major production lines. Boeing, the world's largest aerospace company, has been struggling to raise production to keep up with a surge in

commercial-jet orders. Mr. Woodard also criticized Airbus Industrie, Boeing's European sales.

develop new aircraft.

"I'm surprised that a company products, of this level of complex-

ity, is still trying to get state aid to lannch new products," he said. Airbus officials shrugged off the Boeing executive's remarks.
"It's interesting to see that Mr.

Woodard is so concerned about European taxpayers," said John Leahy, Airbus's senior vice president, commercial, according to a spokesman contacted at Airbus headquarters in Toulouse, France. The Airbus spokesman said the issue of state support had been settled in 1992.

"Once more it appears that the rules which both sides at an official level had agreed upon and were considered fair," the spokesman said, "seem to displease one of the players - and that is not Airbus.

A 1992 treaty between the United States and the European Union set a limit of state support for developing new aircraft at 30 percent of the aircraft project's total budget. The state aid must be repaid from aircraft

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INTERNATIONAL FUTURES Feb. 10, 1998

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EU to Probe Fees Of Mobile Phones

Reuters
BRUSSELS — The European Commission said Tuesday that it had begun investigating complaints about the high level of some mobile phone charges as part of its efforts to make cellular services more widely available.

The commission said in a statement that its competition chief, Karel Van Miert, wanted to find out why, for example, it sometimes cost significantly more to call a mobile phone from a fixed network than from another mobile. He has asked fixed and mobile telecom operators in all EU countries to provide information by the end of February, the commission said.

An EU source said Belgium and Britain were among the countries where price gaps had been noticed

EU law requires operators to base their interconnection fees on actual costs.

Fiat, Old Russian Player, Shifts Into High

By James Hansen Special to the Herold Tribune

TURIN --- Fiat SpA will become one of the biggest foreign investors in Russia when it signs an \$850 million joint-venture agreement Wednesday

Reconstruction and Development. The venture, ZAO Nizhegorod Motors, will start assembling low-

The agreement is the latest in a in Italy. series of deals that have seen Western automobile manufacturers preparing to begin production in Russia. Ford Motor Co. confirmed last month it would invest about \$150 million in a Russian car factory, and Renault has signed a \$350 million agreement to build its Megane sedan

in the country. Of the funding, about \$240 million will come from the European de- flowered during the 1960s, when Fiat

It Will Hold 40% of \$850 Million Venture

ects in addition to those covered by a
420 billion lira (\$247 million) credit

in equal parts, the automaker said. Fiat and OAO GAZ will each

with the Russian automaker OAO European bank will GAZ and the European Bank for maining 20 percent.

Motors, will start assembling lowend Fiat models this year in Nizhny are based on Fiat's Project 178 smoothed the way for joint ventures Tecnimont, the engineering s the Siena and the Palio Weekend -(250 miles) east of Moscow, Fiat in Poland and Brazil. The third, the larger Marea sedan, is manufactured By 2001, the Russian plant is expected to produce a total of 150,000

> Russian law requires that at least 50 percent of components be from local sources within five years of start-up. Fiat entered Russia in 1913 when it began selling its automobiles through a Moscow dealer. A privileged link

units a year of the three models.

\$610 million in cash and in assets will facturing complex for AvtoZAZ, come from the two industrial partners maker of the Lada, a small sedan based on the old Fiat 124.

The Fiat-OAO GAZ deal is the hold 40 percent of the venture; the most important of a series of agree-European bank will have the re- ments carefully held for completion during a visit to Italy by Russian Two of the three Fiat models to be President Boris Yeltsin, which will produced in Nizhny Novgorod - end Wednesday.

Novgorod, about 400 kilometers world-car platform, manufactured by saying its export insurance agency would guarantee Italian projects in Russia, Reuters reported from Rome. SACE, the state body that it had "extended the coverage of its insurance with regard to Russia."

[The agency suspended guarantees for projects in Russia six years ago after the demise of the Soviet Union, and investment slowed to a trickle. Italy was Moscow's second-largest creditor during the final years of Communist rule in the late 1980s. with the former Soviet government

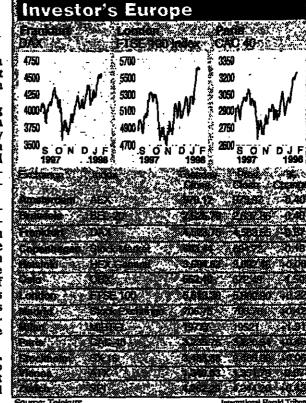
[SACE said it would now be able velopment bank. The remaining built the huge Togliattigrad manu- to underwrite export credits for proj-

line Rome created with Moscow in July 1996.]

Other agreements signed during Mr. Yeltsin's visit to Italy included a \$200 million sale of buses to the city St. Petersburg by Breda Costruzioni Ferroviarie SpA as well as an agreement by Merioni Elettrodomestici SpA to build a washing-

Tecnimont, the engineering sub-sidiary of Montedison SpA, in a consortium with Japanese and Turkish construction companies and the European Bank for Reconstruction underwrites export credits, said that and Development, will build five petrochemical plants for a group of Gazprom subsidiaries. Gazprom is the Russian national hydrocarbons monopoly. According to a Montedison spokesman, the total value of the five projects is about \$700 million.

Ente Nazionale Idrocarburi SpA, the Italian state energy group, is also expected to announce an agreement with Gazprom on the extraction and distribution of natural gas.



Lords Rebuff Blair, Not to Mention Murdoch

By Tom Buerkle onal Herold Tribuni

LONDON — As the Labour Party
has moved to the center of Britain's

Mr. Murdoch's News International trading, and thus the government's bour politicians, including Robin antitrust chief, Lord Barrie is a dipolitical spectrum, few changes have carried as much symbolism as to more than double the circulation company. Prime Minister Tony Blair's court-

ship of Rupert Murdoch. The Australian-born press baron was Labour's scourge during the Thatcher and Major years preceding Labour's victory last year, and many party officials believe his newspapers' virulent attacks cost the party the 1992 election.

And so it was a tremendous coup when Mr. Blair's openly pro-business policies won him the endorsement of Mr. Murdoch's mass-circulation tabloid, The Sun, in the 1997 campaign. And Mr. Blair has The amendment was sponsored kept the friendship alive, turning to by Liberal Democrat and Conser-

likely alliance under attack. On and supported the measure. Monday night, the House of Lords defied the government's position range of newspapers and a diversity competition bill that would outlaw not just from mergers but from the tection to consumers without

paper industry. The measure, instig- said Lord Borrie, a Labour member

ated by the struggling Independent of Lords. As well as being former the party line is high in the Combroadsheet paper, is clearly aimed at director-general of the office of fair mons because many prominent Lastrategies during the last five years rector of The Independent's parent Mr. Murdoch's marketing factics

The government says it will seek to delete an amendment in the House of Commons.

example, has been sold for 10 pence (16 cents) a copy as compared to 45 satellite television business, pence for most competitors. The BSkyB. The amendment is aimed at price has just been raised to 20 preventing such cross subsidy.

"predatory pricing" in the news- persistent tactic of price-cutting."

High Law Close Prev. 127.50 147.70 172.86 172.95 17.00 172.95 17.9

A spokesman for the prime minwould seek to delete the amendment the columns of The Sun two months varive members of the Lords but 23 when the bill goes to the House of ago to argue his case for welfare Labour peers, including a former Commons in the next month or so. deputy party leader, Roy Hattersley, Lord Simon, who argued the gov-But now, Mr. Blair finds his un- opposed the government's stance erament's case in the Lords, said months ended Dec. 31. there was no need for a special pro-"The continued availability of a vision that applies to one industry or columnist and Conservative lord, even one company and insisted that and approved an amendment to a of news and views is surely at risk the bill would provide adequate pro-

The potential for defections from while they were in opposition.

of its flagship, The Times, to around 800,000 daily from a low of 350,00 the amendment, he contended that Mr Murdoch subsidizes The Times 'to make changes to itself and to lower its prices to test those changes in the world's most competitive and successful newspaper market.'

While the newspaper's gains have been the most dramatic, overall broadsheet circulation has risen with profits from his interests in the more than 10 percent in the last four

years, it noted The paper also dismissed allegations of cross subsidy, saying that losses at The Times have narrowed ister's office said the government sharply and are more than offset by profits at The Sunday Times. News Corp. last week reported a 10 percent increase in operating profits at its U.K. newspapers in the six

William Rees-Mogg, a Times blamed The Independent's problems on a succession of editorial changes and divisions between its owners.

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Europe's Markets Form an Alliance

PARIS - Europe's continental markets, trying to out-maneuver London and become a major center for securities trading in the euro zone, signed an agreement Tuesday to create a link called Euro Alliance.

The deal was presented hours before securities markets in Germany, France and Switzerland were to list the European stocks they will include in their benchmark indexes in the era of European monetary union that

is due to begin next year. "The partners of Euro Alliance have confirmed their desire to create the market of reference for interest-rate derivatives and indices with a view to 'winning the battle of the euro,' " the bourses said.

Jean-Francois Theodore, head of the SBF Paris bourse, contended that the plan had put London, Europe's fargest stock market, on the defensive.

"The London Stock Exchange's problem today is not the conquest but the conservation of its domestic market," he said.

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Very briefly:

 British Petroleum Co.'s profit before special items fell 8 percent in 1997, to £636 million (\$1.04 billion) on a current-cost basis, which values oil inventories at current market prices, as new finds did not offset a drop in oil prices. Historic-cost profit, which values inventories at their original purchase price, rose 23 percent to £588 million, including special items.

• Renters Holdings PLC's pretax profit fell 4 percent, to £626 million, in 1997 because of the strong pound and a onetime accounting charge. Sales fell 1 percent, to £2.88 billion. • Railtrack Group PLC has asked National Express PLC, Virgin Group Ltd. and others to take over the Eurostar train service as part of its potential bid to build a high-speed rail link between London and the Channel Tunnel.

• Unilever PLC said 13 percent of its operations were performing below expectations, down from 20 percent 18 months ago, and said it might sell some of them.

• The United States formally proposed to the World Trade Organization that Internet commerce be kept free of duties, diplomats reported.

 Teva Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd. of Israel warned that fourth-quarter earnings would not meet expectations because of reduced domestic sales and the cost of marketing a new drug. • Hannover Re's net profit rose 11 percent, to 120 million Deutsche marks (\$66.3 million), as premium income rose 20 percent, to 7.7 billion DM.

• Bayerische Vereinsbank AG and the German bank's workers council agreed to increase the company's proportion of part-time employees to 15 percent from 11 percent.

 Leica Camera AG posted a loss of 5.2 million DM for the quarter ended in December, against profit of 3 million DM a year earlier, as Asian sales of its photo equipment fell 47 percent. Asia accounts for 27 percent of its sales.

• French consumer sentiment declined in January to its lowest level since May. AFP, Bloomberg, AFX, Reuters, AP

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

Tuesday, Feb. 10

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Cash-Rich Indonesian Firm Ducks Creditors Investor's Asia

gional chief economist of the Econ-months. China had a trade surplus of

countries whose currencies have consultation with the Hong Kong

Sogang University and a specialist starts renegotiating it now, no one

will honor it."

plunged in value in the past several Monetary Authority." he said.

Bloomberg News

Seoul Firm

Owes Morgan \$180 Million

Bloomberg News

company that lost money in-

vesting in derivative securities

based on Asian currencies owes

J. P. Morgan & Co. at least \$180

million, court officials and

The company, SK Securities,

is disputing payment, which comes due Thursday, a Seoul

District Court judge said, citing

documents filed by SK Secu-

rities. The derivatives contract

is worth about \$180 million,

according to In Hwan Jung, a

manager in the international fi-

nance department at Boram

Bank, which guaranteed part of

J. P. Morgan and other international banks are helping

South Korea roll over \$24 bil-

lion in bank debt by exchanging for government-backed

loans. The agreement is scheduled to be signed in April.

A J.P. Morgan official in

Seoul said his company was working with South Korean

companies to ensure payment on

such transactions. He declined

to say whether the New York-

based bank had written off any

Such derivatives were pop-

ular a year ago because they

allowed investors to borrow yen

at low interest rates and invest in

higher-vielding currencies such

as the Thai baht or Indonesian

rupiah. Since then, the baht and

rupiah have lost more than more

than 40 percent of their value

against the U.S. dollar, leaving

South Korean investors were

particularly eager to take ad-

vantage of an opportunity to

borrow abroad because interest

As Asian currencies sank in

value against the U.S. dollar,

those loans became increasingly

difficult or impossible to repay.

rates were so high at home.

investors with hefty losses.

losses from the transactions.

bankers said Tuesday.

SEOUL - A South Korean

JAKARTA - PT Matahari Putra Prima, the largest department-store to preserve its working capital." company in Indonesia, was supamid the tangled wreckage of Indonesia s corporate debt crisis.

rupiah (\$94.5 million) through a sale of shares to stockholders in October, giving it enough cash to meet \$60 million in short-term payments due by the end of March. What is more, the company bought 12.6 percent of a hotel company last month, indicating it had cash to spare.

So why is Matahari telling lenders it doesn't want to repay that \$60 million on time?

"It's the prudent thing to do," said Robert Hacker, a Matahari vice

HONG KONG - China will

probably devalue its currency in

1999, but it will hold off as long as

possible to avoid igniting fresh

chaos in Asian financial markets or

hurting the economy of Hong Kong.

sometime in 1999, partly because of

fears of a round of competitive de-

valuations," said Ken Davies, re-

Continued from Page 11

closely watching the reaction of

South Korea's student groups, long

regarded as a gauge of public sen-

timent, to the proposed legislation.

feel the effects of the upheaval that

will sweep South Korea's work-

its economic footing.

ing, even though they are likely to mal job offers.

"It probably won't happen until

a China specialist said Tuesday.

posed to be a shining exception debt realizes creditors' worst fear: credit risk." that even solvent companies would balk at servicing debts after Radius

ments for some companies. Amna Tirmizi, an analyst at GK Goh, cut her rating on Matahari stock to "sell to extremely low levels" after it bought the hotel stake and said it was seeking to said, "It was a 'buy' because they told us they were so well hedged and because they had this fabulous rights issue that was going to help

them ride out the crisis." Mr. Hacker said all of Matahari's president. "The environment is so creditors had agreed to a rollover of

Economist Sees Yuan Falling in '99

ies said. He predicted a devaluation

'in the order of 5 or 10 percent."

There has been intense specula-tion that China would be forced to

devalue its currency to make its ex-

SEOUL: Labor Group Threatens Strike Over Economic Pact

on labor issues, estimates that of the

470,000 graduates hitting the labor

market this year, fewer than 100,000

will get jobs. He said even students that had received tentative offers

Park Young Ki, a professor at ment," he said. "If the government but in a year or two or three."

uncertain, it strongly suggests the its debt. "We're encouraged by the company should do whatever it can reaction," he said. "We haven't had Matahari's effort to reschedule its they're not concerned about our

But Standard & Poor's Corp. is. The American credit monitor slashed Though the retail arm of Lippo Group is burdened with \$200 million adviser on debt, proposed a temnotches below investment grade, on concern that the Indonesian financial in debt, Matahari raised 902 billion porary freeze last month on debt pay- concern that the Indonesian financial crisis had forced Matahari to spend some of its cash reserves.

Matahari's shares finished 25 rupiah lower Tuesday at 400.

'Acute systemic problems in Inreschedule debt. Before then, she made it increasingly difficult for the rupiah began plummeting last ing capital funding," S&P said. 'Consequently, Matahari has come under financial stress as a result of having to fund its business from internal cash resources rather than creditors or bank lines."

and Indonesian rupiah still fluctu-

But Mr. Yoon said that if public

seemed tepid now, it would pick up

steam once layoffs began.

S&P warned that it was considering a further cut of Matahari's to make a payout so far. I guess rating, particularly if it "seeks to reschedule payment of its financial obligations under the voluntary framework announced by the Indonesian government on Jan. 27."

Matahari told analysts last year that it had hedged its debts at a rate of 2,700 rupiah to the dollar. The dollar was trading at 9,500 rupiah Tuesday in New York, down from 9,550 rupiah Monday.

While dozens of Indonesian companies have shown themselves donesia's financial sector have unable or unwilling to pay debts since Matahari to obtain essential work- August, no publicly traded company has gone bankrupt or otherwise been forced to seek court protection from creditors. Jakarta said Friday that it was working quickly to set up a bankruptcy law as part of its strategy to resolve the private debt problem.

Defendant Admits Payoff at Toshiba

The Associated Press TOKYO - A former executive

omist Intelligence Unit.

"When it does take place, it will be late and fairly small," Mr. Davies said it would become necessary for China to devalue but at Toshiba Corp. pleaded guilty Tuesday to charges that he had paid that to do it now, with the Thai baht off accused corporate extortionists. Takeshi Watanabe, 55, former ating in value, would be to stimulate head of the general affairs depart-"just another bout of competitive devaluations." When China does ment at Toshiba, admitted making illegal payments of \$17,000 to two ports competitive with those of Asian devalue, "it will have to do so in

racketeers. Two accused racketeers — Terubo Tei, 53, and Kaoru Hamada, 40 had aiready been arrested on charges of receiving illegal payments over a three-year period from 1995.

Mr. Watanabe's payments were made to ensure that the electronics company's shareholder meetings ran smoothly, prosecutors told the court. Making deals with sokaiya is ilsupport for the confederation legal in Japan. The guilty plea came

on the opening day of Mr. Watanabe's trial in Tokyo. "At the moment, many people Sokaiya buy a token amount of a are concerned about our crisis, and company's stock and threaten to dis-Nonetheless, Mr. Park does not in the name of not prolonging the rupt shareholders meetings by support the confederation's threat to crisis, they remain silent," he said. bringing up embarrassing informa-"But we are certain it's not going to something to reach this agree- be finished in a couple of months, personal lives of executives unless they are paid off.

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Nikkei 225

 Softbank Corp., a major Japanese distributor of computer software, plans to dissolve a computer-game joint venture with Microsoft Corp. because of slumping sales, Japanese media reported. Softbank's move comes at a time of sluggish earnings growth at the three-year-old venture, Gamebank Corp. • Nissan Motor Co. is reducing the amount of palladium it uses

Composite Index 541.77

in catalytic converters because of uncertain supplies and rising prices. Palladium last month rose as high as \$256.50 an ounce, its highest in almost 18 years, as traders feared that Russia, the world's biggest supplier, would hold back shipments. The metal was quoted Tuesday at \$234 an ounce in New York.

• Malaysia Airline System Bhd. is to defer taking delivery of Boeing aircraft due this year and next because of a declining load factor and currency instability, a Malaysian newspaper report said. The carrier, which placed an order in 1996 with Boeing Co. for 25 aircraft valued at \$4 billion, took delivery last year of five and was scheduled to take delivery of eight this year, seven next year and the remaining five in 2000. A bid to end a strike in the Sri Lanka tea industry has failed,

but further talks are possible. • International Business Machines Corp. expects Asia's economic crisis to cut the company's growth rate in the region this year, its Southeast Asia general manager, George Same-

nuk said. He declined to give details. tion about failed investments or the • Daiwa Bank Ltd. expects losses of 4.8 billion yen (\$38.4 million) on loans to two companies that went bankrupt this AP, Bloomberg, AFP, Reuters

So far, the students have said noth- from chaebol were not getting for-

places as the country seeks to regain strike. "Everybody has conceded

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SPORTS

World Roundup

Ban for Ear-Biting

RUGBY UNION Kevin Yates, a prop forward for Bath and England. was banned for six months Tuesday for having bit the ear of an opposing player, but he continued to insist that he was innocent.

A Rugby Football Union disciplinary panel announced the ban after 25 hours of deliberations spanning three days. The incident took place in a match between Bath and London Scottish that left Simon Fenn of Australia in need of 25 stitches on his ear.

Yates said he would appeal. "I'm very upset and disappointed that this decision has been reached despite there being no conclusive evidence against me," he said. "I am innocent of the charges." (Reuters)



Sabine Appelmans beating Larisa Neiland, 6-1 6-3, in the Gaz de France tournament.

Steven Upsets Rios

TENNIS Brett Steven upset Marcelo Rios, the Australian Open finalist, 6-3, 6-3 on Tuesday in the first round of the \$1 million Dubai Open, Rios, ranked No. 5 in the world, made errors on big points as he handed Steven, ranked 49, a comfortable victory. Jeff Tarango eliminated the fifth seed, Sergi Bruguera, 6-3 6-3. (Reuters) Bruguera, 6-3 6-3.

Australia Crushes Kiwis

CRICKET Australia beat New Zealand by 66 runs Tuesday in a one-day game in Wellington, tak-ing a 2-0 lead in a four-match series. Mark Waugh made 85 as Australia reached 297 runs for six wickets. Australia then bowled out New Zealand for 231. (Reuters)

Big Raise for a Met

BASEBALL Edgar Alfonzo, who led the New York Mets in hitting in 1997, was among five players facing arbitration who agreed to one-year contracts Monday. Alfonzo got a 714 percent raise, to \$1.75 million.

The other players who settled were: Pat Meares, the Minnesota shortstop, (\$2.5 million); John Mabry, a St. Louis utility player. (\$1.4 million); Bryce Florie (\$600,000), a Detroit pitcher; and Felipe Lira, a Seattle pitcher, (\$415,000). Twenty-five players remain in arbitration. The first case is due to be argued Wednesday in Phoenix, Arizona.

Gastineau Is Charged

FOOTBALL Mark Gastineau, a former New York Jets defensive end, has been arrested and charged with assaulting his girlfriend.

A police spokesman said Gastineau's 33-year-old girlfriend was taken to a hospital Monday with bruises on her face following the attack on a Queens Borough stret. Gastineau, 41, was charged with third-degree assault.

Silk Cut Loses Mast

SAILING The British yacht Silk Cut lost its mast in the Southern Ocean on Tuesday in the fifth leg of the Whitbread Round the World Race. The yacht was about halfway from Auckland to Cape Horn and was battered by high winds and big (Reuters)

England's Unstoppable Youth

Liverpool Scorer May Become Youngest to Play for Country

By Rob Hughes

TAGANO, Japan --- Is precocity a burden or a bonus in soccer's World Cup year? Forty years ago, when a young fellow named Pele was called up by Brazil, age did not seem to matter. Twenty years ago, when Argentina had the teenage idol Diego Armando Maradona, he was reduced to tears because he was considered too tender in years by his coach, Cesar Menotti.

This Wednesday, Glenn Hoddle, the England coach, has hinted that he will blood a young phenomenon, Michael Owen, in a match against Chile. Owen would become the youngest player to win an England cap.

Owen, who plays for Liverpool, has until June 15, the day of England's opening World Cup fixture against Tunisia in Marseille to beat the record. On that date, he will be 18 years 183 days old, the same age as Duncan Edwards when he made his debut in the 1950s.

The salutary warning to use talent while it exists is that Edwards triumphed young and died young, as a 21-year-old victim of the 1958 plane crash at the Munich airport that killed eight players for Manchester United.

Owen's life has no doubts. His speed of movement defies attempts by seasoned defenders to block him, kick him, diminish his audacious appetite in a men's game.

He plays on confidence and on an instinct for goal. Although Hoddle is famously cautious, he says Owen will probably play at some point against Chile at Wembley in London on Wednesday.

"He is only 18, but age isn't a hurdle—ability is," said Hoddle, who himself played for England more than 70 times.
"That comes first followed by temperament. He has potential, he has the right temperament, now we have to see if he can do it against the best defenders in the world."

I have watched this boy progress through England's age-group teams. He has scored on every debut: for England's under-15, under-18, under-19, under-20 and under-21 teams. It is rare indeed to see genius grow, but when Liverpool thrust him into its senior team a year ago he did ... well, you know what he did — the boy scored.

He was on the golf course last week, taking money off an older man, by beating him to the shot. The senior player was Terry Owen, once a goal scorer, now merely the father who intends to keep Michael Owen's feet on the ground.

The youngster, rapidly becoming a millionaire, will be helping with family chores for a while yet. At Liverpool, where he is developing an all round game, making as well as taking chances,

WORLD SOCCER

Owen is surpassing players who were his idols just months ago. He is in the England squad, Robbie Fowler is not. They both play for Liverpool. Fowler, once a teenage phenomenon himself, has reached 23 and his star seems to be waning. The quickening cycle of youth replacing experience is becoming scary.

But those who saw Owen grow, the schoolmasters in a small community by the River Dee, always knew the ability was there. They once had a boy called Ian Rush, who scored more often than any boy in the region and went on to become the most prolific goal scorer at Liverpool, although Rush struggled after he was sold to Juventus.

Rush, the Deeside schoolboy, hit a record 52 goals in one season; Owen, at the same age, struck 97.

Nothing has since stemmed the flow.

A few English brutes, not least the Arsenal captain Tony Adams, have tried to intimidate him, to bruise him, to discourage him. It has not worked so far.

The name of Owen already means something to soccer people across Europe, Borussia Dortmund, the champion club of Europe, offered Liverpool a fair exchange. They wanted to swap Karl-Heinze Riedle, their German in-ternational striker, for the boy. Liverpool kept Owen, and instead bought Riedle for £1.5 million (\$2.4 million). Now either Riedle or Fowler must sit on the bench and wait for Owen to hit a fallow patch. It will come; it is the growing pain of

the teenage sportsman. But meanwhile, let me try to convey what it feels like to try to stop Owen.

Against Blackburn Rovers last month, he faced two huge and experienced defenders, Stephane Henchoz plays of Switzerland and Colin Hendry of Scotland. They were almost pulled

out of joint trying to suppress him. He darted between them like a lizard between rocks. Once, he let the ball roll between his feet, then, with the audacity of a child, used the outside of his right foot to dab the ball slightly to one side.

That trick caused Hendry to run off in the direction of the nearest town. Owen used the space to shoot, low, instantly and hard. The goalkeeper, a third national team player, Tim Flowers of Eng-land, made a brilliant instinctive save, but even then it took a fourth Blackburn player to back the ball away from the goal. Owen, in a blink of an eve, had outwitted half the opposing team.

Does that make him ready for the

World Cup? No one can say, but no one can take the risk of ignoring him.

AST MONTH, the French national team manager Aime Jacquet I had the opportunity to see if the young Monaco striker David Trezeguet could fill the French need for a genuine goal scorer. Jacquet failed to trust the youth: Trezeguet came on only near the end, leaving his potential unanswered.

Back to 1958, to Gothenburg, to Pele. He scored and Brazil won the World Cup. On the other hand, in 1978 Maradona did not play and Argentina won, and in 1994 Ronaldo, then just 17, was just substitute for the World Cup final. Brazil did not score but it won anyway.

Rob Hughes is on the staff of The Times of London.

■ Ghana Defeats Tunisia, 2-0

Ghana, which failed to qualify for World Cup finals, beat Tunisia, which is going to France, 2-0, in a Group B African Nations' Cup clash on Monday, Reuters reported from Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso.

Nations' Cup favorite and World Cup qualifier Morocco, unbeaten in competition for two years, drew, 1-1, with Zambia in a Group D match in Bobo-Dioulasso, Burkina Faso's second city.



Raul Diaz Arce (19) of El Salvador heading the ball in Concacaf action.

Jamaica in Concacaf Semifinals

LOS ANGELES - Jamaica qualified for the semifinals of the Concacaf Gold Cup by beating El Salvador, 2-0. Monday night.

Jamaica will play Mexico on Thursday at the Los Angeles Coliseum. The United States was to face Brazil, the defending World Cup champion, in the other semifinal, on Tuesday night. Marcus Gayle began the scoring for net.

Jamaica in the 41st minute. Paul Hall hit a long ball forward, and Gayle outjumped goalkeeper Santos Rivera at the penalty spot and headed the ball into the net.

Fitzroy Simpson scored the second goal on a free kick in the 62d minute. After the Salvadoran defender Nelson Rojas tripped Deon Burton on a breakaway, Simpson powered a 23-yard line drive into the upper-right corner of the

The Past Aside, Ex-UCLA Coach Gets His Footing At Rhode Island

By Laura Gardner Vashington Post Service

WASHINGTON - The Rhode Island basketball coach. Jim Harrick, has never been to George Washington's Smith Center, where his 25th-ranked Rams were to play the 17th-ranked Co-

lonials on Tuesday night.
In fact, Harrick said: "I've never been to any gym that I've played in this year. Not one.

That doesn't mean Harrick's face isn't a familiar one. Although he is in his first season with Rhode Island, Harrick is one of the most high-profile coaches in the Atlantic 10 Conference.

He reached the pinnacle of NCAA basketball when he led UCLA to the 1995 national championship, the school's first title since Bruins legend John Wooden retired in 1975. He hit its nadir in equally chronicled fashion 19 months later, when he was dismissed by the school for falsifying an expense report and later lying to

administrators about it. His departure was an acrimonious one, with Harrick's supporters contending that the punishment didn't fit the crime and his detractors pointing out the gravity of the ethical breach that had occurred. In May 1997, Rhode Island joined the pro-Harrick ranks. After an investigation of its own into the events surrounding Har-



REACHING OUT - Tulane forward Keith Harris, left, battling with North Carolina Charlotte's Kelvin Price, center, and Versile Shaw for the ball. With its 77-68 victory Monday night, North Carolina Charlotte took sole possession of the lead in Conference USA's American Division.

rick's departure from UCLA, the school hired him to replace Al Skinner, who had left for Boston College.

"It was a great thing that Jim Harrick and Rhode Island got together," Harrick said. Some faculty members and alumni reportedly disapproved of Harrick's hiring and the message it sent, but Harrick declined to discuss it. "I've had a marvelous reception here," he said.

There is no question his presence has galvanized interest in the program. The Rams play home games at two venues: Keaney Gym, an on-campus facility that accommodates 3,885, and Providence Civic Center, which seats 12,933. And the Rams have already surpassed

their attendance total for all of last season. In 13 home dates last season, 60,479 watched the Rams play. In 11 home dates so far this season, 68,393 fans have passed through the turnstiles.

The number of season ticket packages sold for the Civic Center has increased from 2,300 to 4,200 since Harrick's hiring, according to assistant athletic director Walter Boyle.

Fans come to see a coach who guided UCLA to a national championship, three Pacific-10 Conference titles and eight NCAA tournament appearances in as many seasons, a coach who has won almost 70 percent of his games in a head coaching career that also includes nine seasons at Pepperdine. They hope he can guide Rhode Island, a perennial stepchild to in-state rival Providence of the Big East Conference, to the next level.

Harrick said: "You can always do better, but we're 17-5 and we're rolling along. We're not a great club, but a decent team '

Harrick's team returned four starters from last season's team, which went 20-10 and lost to Purdue in overtime in the first round of the NCAA tournament. They have senior guard Tyson Wheeler, who averages 14.7 points and leads the Atlantic 10 in assists at 6.3 per game. Senior Cuttino Mobiley leads the team in scoring, averaging 16 points; Purdue transfer Luther Clay has stepped in at center with 9.4 points and 6.5 rebounds, and shot-blocking junior forward Ant-onio Reynolds-Dean leads the team in

rebounding (7.6). Tuesday's game was to be the third in four days for the Rams. "Real, real stupid scheduling," Harrick said.
"I'd just like to have a little time to

practice. We haven't practiced in so long that you kind of lose the little things you do to help your team win. It's been a hectic, hectic schedule." But by keeping busy, Harrick said, he

has no time to dwell on the circumstances of his departure from UCLA and a corner of the world where he had lived and worked for more than 30 years. 'Once you're busy and coaching an-

other team you never really think about it." he said. "It's just something that happened in the past.'

TV Deals Give Salary Cap In NFL \$10 Million Boost

By Leonard Shapiro Washington Post Service

Four days before the start of the free agency signing period Friday, National Football League teams were informed to expect a salary cap of about \$51.5 million for the 1998 season, a \$10 million increase over the 1997 figure that a team can spend on player payroll.

Sources said the league office sent a memo to all 30 teams Monday, giving them a cap number that could even go slightly higher. The final figure would depend on the numbers agreed upon by the league, its players union and an audit of the league's designated gross revenues, a figure that is mostly network television money and ticket revenues.

A league spokesman confirmed that the memo went out Monday night, but declined to provide specific numbers. The players will get 62 percent of those

gross revenues under the league's collective bargaining agreement with the NFL Players Association. That contract runs out after the 2000 season unless the two sides can agree on an extension. Under the accord, the 1999 season will be played under a salary cap, with the 2000 season an uncapped year.

In addition to the \$51.5 million for salaries, teams also were informed that players will receive about \$5.5 million per club to pay for benefits, a \$300,000 increase over last year. Benefits include pension, health, disability and other insurance protection.

The salary cap represents the amount of money a team can spend to put together its player roster. Teams technically are not supposed to exceed the cap figure in any given year, though most clubs have used signing bonuses that are prorated over the length of a player's contract to circumvent a hard cap. Gene Upshaw, executive director of

the NFL Players Association, said Monday night that the union had not been officially informed about the 1998 cap, but that the \$51.5 million figure was one he had been hearing from his own sources around the league.

"It's going to be subject to change,"
Upshaw said, "but I can definitely tell you this - it's not going down. We still think that may even be a conservative number, but for now, this is what they're sacks while with the Panthers in 1996.

telling the clubs.
"The teams have to have some kind of number going into free agency, and this is where it starts. I see it as a lowball number because they still haven't finalized the TV payment yet."

The \$10 million increase is a direct result of the NFL's new eight-year, \$17.6 billion television contract with CBS, Fox and ABC/ESPN announced three weeks ago. That pact will pay teams an average of about \$75 million per year in TV revenue, compared to the average of about \$40 million a year under terms of the previous four-year TV contract.

The league and the networks still have not determined the payment schedule over the eight years, but the league told its teams the preliminary cap number for 1998 was based on a \$1.75 billion TV payment for this season, or \$58.3 million per team.

■ 49ers Release 2 Veterans

Slashing their payroll to gain some financial flexibility, the San Francisco 49ers released high-priced veterans Rod Woodson and Kevin Greene, ending a one-year association with the former Pro Bowlers, The Associated Press reported from Santa Clara, California.

Both Woodson and Greene played prominent roles on the 49ers' topranked defense last season, but by cutting them loose, San Francisco gained \$5.9 million in salary cap relief.

The general manager, Dwight Clark, said the release of the two was a matter of economics: "Even though we anticipate an increase to the salary cap, it won't be enough to allow us to keep Rod and Kevin at their current salaries. Clark has said he expects to have to trim \$16 million from the team's current \$61 million payroll. But he left the door open for the possible return of the players, though it

would be at lower pay. Woodson, a seven-time Pro Bowler in 10 seasons with Pittsburgh and a member of the NFL's 75th anniversary team, joined San Francisco prior to last season as a free agent. Greene also joined the 49ers as a free agent after being released by Carolina at the end of a bitter contract dispute. He finished with 101/2 sacks as a situational passrusher after leading the league with 141/2

Football Draft: A 'Drain' Game

INDIANAPOLIS - Florida State defensive lineman Andre Wadsworth is relieved that the National Foorball League scouting combine is over. And Wadsworth is one of those lucky players who knows he will be drafted early.

A lot of guys told me what to expect, but it was still a drain,"
Wadsworth said Monday after returning from the combine. Wadsworth, who is considered certain to be one of the top picks when the college draft begins April 18, said the combine was "more mental than physical."

The combine ended Monday, and the research on its participants by the 30

NFL teams will now intensify.

"I thought I did well," Wadsworth said. "I didn't run, but I did the broad jump, shuttle drills, stretching drills and vertical jumps. I was probably among the top 10 at my position in everything. But I feel I could have done better."

The Indianapolis Colts, who have the top pick in the draft, said Sunday that Washington State quarterback Ryan Leaf, also due to be one of the top draft picks, failed to show up for a scheduled meeting with them Saturday.

In New York. Leaf said he had missed the meeting because he was having a shoulder examination at the request of the Chicago Bears.

BASEBALL CARIBBEAN SERIES

CRICKET

NRW ZLALAND VS. ADSTRALIA ONE DAY INTERNATIONAL TUESDAY IK WELLINGTON, NEW ZEALAND lustrolia. 297 for six wickets

New Zeoland: 231 Australia won by 66 runs and leads four ne-day series 2-0. NEW ZEALAND A VS. ZEMI FOUR-DAY MATCH, THIRD DAY

New Zealand A won by an innings GOLF

MONITE CUP POLITÉ andings for Presidents Cup Match to be ed Dec. 11-13 at Royal Melbourne Goli Standings for Presidents Cup Match to be played Dec. 11-13 at Royal Melbourne Gold Gutb in Australia. U.S. player points are based on official money semings from start of the 1997 season through World Series of Golf, International team will be determined by Official World Ramaing at and of World Series of Golf, and will not include any player eligible for the European Ryder Cup learn. The top 10 earn positions, and each captain.

SCOREBOARD . Tiger Woods 2.584.433 2. David Duval 2.232,633 3. Davis Love 3d 1,931,703 8. Scatt Hech 1,456,688 Mark Calcovectila 1,293,156

10. Brad Foron 1,290,455 11. Fred Couples 1,276,385 12. Steve Jones 1,263,572 12. Loren Roberts 1,222,242 14. Paul Stankowski 1,218,722 S. Stewart Clark 1,161,555 INTERNATIONAL TEAM

1. Greg Norman, Australia, 17.49

2. Ernie Els, South Alrico, 10.25

2. Nick Price, January, 9.22

4. Junta Cont. L. Jumbo Ozaki, Japan, 8.05 5, Steve Elkington, Australia, 7.05

5. Steve Elkington, Avatralla, 7.05
6. Vijay Singh, Fiji 6.17
7. Frank Mobile, New Zealond, 4.92
8. Shigeki Manayama, Japon, 3.73
9. Stuart Appleby, Australia, 3.51
10. Crulg Parry, Australia, 3.43
11. Mark McNully, Zimbobwe, 3.40
12. Joe Ozaki, Japon, 3.23
13. David Frast, South Africa, 3.08
14. Eduardo Romero, Argentina, 2.84
15. Robert Alienby, Australia, 2.76

SOCCER **AFRICAN NATIONS' CUP** FIRST BOX

Ghana 2, Tunisia 0 STANDINGS: Ghana 3 points: Congo 3: Togo 0, Tunisia 0.

SYAMBINGS. Egypt 3 points: Morocco 1; SPANISH TORST DIVIS Atletico Modifici 4 Oviedo 1 STANDUNOS: Barcelona 45 points: Reci

udrid 44; Real Sociedad 43; Alletico Madrid Athletic Bilbon 40; Mallorca, Cello Vigo Real Betts 37; Espanyol 34; Real Zaragoza Valencia 31; Departivo Coma 30; Oviedo Real Betts 37; Compativo Coma 30; Oviedo olid 26: Merido, Tenerife 25: Salamanco

Crystol Poloce 0, Wimbledon 3
arrantomena: Marchester United 50
points Chebro, Liverpool, Blackburn 45; Arsend 44: Derby 39; Leeds, West Hota 38;
Laicester 34; Newcastle 32; Southempton 31;
Coventry, Aston Vital, Sheffield Wadnesdoy
30; Wimbledon 29; Everton 28; Tothenhorn 26;
Crystol Poloce, Botton 23; Bornaley 22. CONCACAF GOLD CUP

United States vs. Brazil Jamaias vs. Mexico

TENNIS

With Paratings Marting Hingis, Switzerland, 4,007 po Lindsay Davenport U.S., 4283 Jana Novatna Czech Republic 1656 4 Monico Seies, U.S., 2988 5. Ivo Motoff, Croefic. 2.954

8. Conchito Martinez, Spain, 2,484 9. Mary Pierce, France, 2,421 10. Irina Spirica, Romania, 2,343 11 Sondrine Testod, France, 1,992 12. Anke Huber, Germany, 1,981 13. Nathalle Touziat, France, 1,9

TRANSITIONS AMERICAN LEAGUE

MUNNESOTA-Agreed to terms with SS Pol year connects.

GAKLAND-Agreed to terms with RHP
Walle Asoms, RHP Tom Bennett RHP Brad
Rigby, RHP Blake Stein, RHP Joy Witusick.

LHP Tim Kubiraki. C Roman Hermandez.

INF Mark Bellhom, OF Ryan Christenson and OF Brian Lesher on 1-year contracts. SEATTLE-Agreed to learns with RHP Fe-

CINCHINATIONAL LEAGUE
CINCHINATION OF JOH
NUMBER OF I-year controct.
KEN YORK—Agreed to terms with 38
Edgardo Alfanzo on I-year contract.
ST. Louis—Agreed to terms with INF-OFst. Louis-Agreed to terms with INF-OF-John Mobry on 1-year confined. SAM FRACESCO-Promoted Jim Frequel to special assistant for general manager. Math Nerland to assistant director of player per-sonnel, and Bob Harisfield special assign-ment scoul. Named Ted Uhloonder special assistant of player personnel. John Dipuglia assistant coordinator of international oper-ulans, and Jorge Arazamend, Eric Mang-ham, Cesar Navarra and Carlos Ramirez accusts.

BASKETBALL NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION NEW YORK—Signed G Brooks Thompson

WINTER OLYMPICS

Unladylike And Wild, This Hockey Is Bruising

By Margaret Lillard

NAGANO, Japan - U.S. forward Karyn Bye tries to stop a breakaway and ends up sliding neck-first into the goal

Canada's Danielle Goyette gets sandwiched between two Chinese players and finds herself flipped head over

For those who think no bodychecking means no danger, the first female Olympic ice hockey players have the bruises - and the penalty minutes - to prove otherwise.

Bodychecking was eliminated from women's international ice hockey after the 1990 Women's World Championship, when it was clear that many international teams were made up of players too small to compete against the Americans and Canadians

Also, with the sport still young in many places, some national teams needed to concentrate on basic skills such as stick-handling and skating.

But with the world's best players fighting for the sport's first Olympic gold medal, the competition has been anything but ladylike.

In Finland's 11-1 victory over Japan on Monday, the Japanese earned 42 penalty minutes, including two 10minute misconduct penalties for checking from behind. Their coach, Toru Itabashi, even apologized to Finland's Rauno Korpi at the post-game press conference.

Goyette tangled with China's Li Xuan, who somehow flipped Goyette on her face and earned a trip to the penalty box.

Some body contact is allowed, even expected, at women's games. But most players will try to take it further if the referee will allow it, U.S. coach Ben Smith said.

"They can push the envelope and go over the boundaries sometimes," he said. "That's why it's really important that the rules are followed. The incidental contact you see now doesn't always seem to be incidental.

'I wouldn't want to see the game go in that direction. I think it would deteriorate quickly."

Less controllable are the spills and

collisions that are a part of hockey. Bye had one of those inevitable moments when she was chasing down a Swedish player in the 7-1 U.S. victory Monday. She dropped to the ice to keep the puck away from goalie Sara DeCosta but kept sliding, knocking the net off its moorings with her shoulder and endir up lying face down along the boards.

But she insisted that she hadn't stayed in her pained pose because she was hurt but because she thought, wrongly, that the player had scored. Hard falls, she

said, are "part of the game."
China's Gong Ming and U.S. defenseman Tara Mounsey also were among the walking wounded at the end of Monday's games. Gong crashed into the boards when she fell while chasing a loose puck and had to be carried, stunned, from the ice. Mounsey was hit on the forearm when she dropped to block a slapshot and left the ice for most of one period. After a day off Tuesday, both planned to play Wednesday.



France's Jean-Philippe Lemoine, left, wresting the puck away from Germany's Benoit Doucet during a preliminary elimination match Tuesday.

Fedorov, in the Wings, **Set to Swoop Into Rink**

The Associated Press NAGANO, Japan — Once again, Sergei Fedorov is a man with a team. Since helping the Detroit Red Wings win the Stanley Cup in June, Fedorov has been out of the National Hockey League because of a contract dispute.

It has meant lonely days skating at empty rinks, trying to maintain the skills that made him the NHL's most valuable player in 1993-94.

The Olympics represented a chance to play competitive hockey, something he may never again do for the Red Wings. So Fedorov became a late addition

to Russia's Olympic hockey team, replacing the injured Alexei Kovalev of the New York Rangers. Realizing the Olympics could be

been working out since December to I thought I'd be playing in the NHL, but an opportunity came my

way to participate in Nagano," he said Tuesday. "That invitation caught me off guard. I've been practicing a lot, and I'm in fair shape to participate.

Fedorov's first game since June 6 will be Friday, when the Russian team stocked with NHL talent opens finalround play against Belarus.

He carefully considered whether to play in the Olympics for Russia, having defected from the Soviet Union in

1989. Without an NHL contract, he has no protection in case of injury. 'It took me 12 hours to think it over," he said. "I was working with

my agent to purchase insurance.' While some of the Russian NHL stars refused to play in the Olympics because of conflicts with their coaches. Fedorov was not among

'The Russian federation made some changes, and we have a different coaching staff," he said.

'That's why maybe some players didn't recognize that change and didn't want to have that aggravation. Players who did come will be very with the management

Fedorov's future after the Olympics is uncertain. He is a retraded; Detroit has responded by offering a new deal.

"It's very simple," he said. "I'd like to regain my career with the NHL, but I'm not sure how it's going

Recently, the New York Islanders made the center an offer, but he turned He declined to discuss whether he

would play for the Red Wings again. "I don't want to take any focus away from the Olympics," he said. 'I left personal NHL problems

back in North America, and they'll be there when I return.'

Seeking Le Miracle sur Glace

For Brooks, U.S. Coach in '80 Upset, It's a Changed Game

By Joe Lapointe New York Times Service

NAGANO, Japan — In some ways, the scene was familiar to Herb Brooks. The modest-sized hockey rink in the modest-sized city was filled with flagwaving fans who were cheering for the underdog home team in the Olympic Winter Games. That is how it was in 1980, his last Olympic Games, when Brooks coached the United States to a gold medal in Lake Placid.

"That was then," Brooks said. "And this is now. Time goes on.'

No longer involved with the American hockey program, no longer coaching in the National Hockey League, Brooks stood behind the bench for France, one of eight teams in the lower bracket of this tournament. Amid the din Monday night, Brooks's team beat Japan, 5-2. On Tuesto Germany and finished the group stage of the competition 1-2.

Brooks was unable to create even a minor miracle on ice by advancing past the three-game preliminary round. Belarus was the sole team to advance from this group of four. And, soon, Brooks will go back to his job as a scout for the

Pittsburgh Penguins. After Monday's game, Brooks joked that he spoke no French and some of his players understood no English.

So I draw pictures," Brooks said. 'And we use an interpreter.' "It's a short-term thing for me," he said of his coaching job. "I'm wearing two hats here. I'm also doing a little scouting for Pittsburgh, to see if any players fell through the cracks."

It would seem to some that Brooks, too, has fallen through the cracks, working this week in a sideshow that serves as a warmup for the Big Six teams, stocked by NHL stars, who begin their phase of the tournament Friday. The U.S. team is one of the favorites for the gold. Many of its players were impressionable boys who were inspired to play hockey by the American success of 1980.

After that gold medal, Brooks coached the Rangers for four seasons, the Minnesota North Stars for one and the Devils for one. He has not worked as a coach since 1993.

"Do I miss it?" he said, repeating the question. "Once you've coached, you've always got a little in you." He said he had a chance to coach an

NHL team last year but decided against it after a talk with his wife. But he might not always say no. "You never say never," he said.

Brooks was 42 when his American team won the gold medal. In some ways, he has become what the film director Orson Welles was in the decades after "Citizen Kane." No matter what modest success he had afterward, every conversation seems to find its way back to that one big moment of the past. At the

'No, not at all," he said. "It's not an albatross at all. I have no regrets. I'm very happy with how things turned out. People are very nice. They say they were proud to be Americans at that point

Brooks conceded that it was an "eerie experience" to upset the Soviet Union on the way to the gold medal during one of the tense phases of the Cold War. Since then, great changes in world politics and Olympic eligibility have made another such epic moment unlikely.

"That was sort of a springboard for a lot of American kids," Brooks said. "I'm happy to see the Americans go from apprentices to journeymen to real masters

CALVIN AND HOBBES

UNCLE MAX, LOOK! I'LL SHOW YOU A MAGIC DISAPPEARING TRICK!

WIZARD of ID

tole an apple

FROM THE

NON SEQUITUR

WHAT'S

in the National Hockey League."

He said he would watch some of the American games in this tournament and cheer for the red, white and blue. But part of him misses the old days, when the United States sent a team filled with amateurs. Brooks was one of them, as an

American player, in 1964 and 1968. Olympics arc sort of special, and Olympians are sort of my heroes," Brooks said. "You know those films Bud Greenspan does? He catches the mean-

ineful things. It's not about perfection. It's about the pursuit of perfection.

"We get so caught up in money things. That's why I like the human side. Now, society wants the quick fix. I'm sort of a grassroots, from the bottom up person instead of trickle down.

Brooks added: "Saying the Olympics are a great environment to market the NHL, we'll see a great tournament, no doubt about it. But I'd rather

For Belarus Defenseman, Using His Head Was All

day, in a much emptier arena, it lost, 2-0, NHL Suspension Let Him Join First Round

By Joe Lapointe
New York Times Service

NAGANO, Japan — Ruslan Salei, a defenseman for Belarus, didn't expect to arrive at the Winter Olympics in time for first-round games.

He asked the Anaheim Mighty Ducks, his National Hockey League team, for a leave of absence and permission to miss two league games. The Ducks refused.

But things worked out in a strange way for Salei, whose team advanced into the round of eight.

In a fight with Chicago's Sergei Krivokrasov on Feb. 1, Salei head-butted his opponent. This got him a twogame suspension. This got him to the Olympics earlier than planned. This helped Belarus go 2-0-1 in the first

And so the former Soviet republic will open the next round Friday against Canada. The other team to advance to the next bracket with the Big Six power was Kazakhstan, another former Soviet republic. Kazakhstan will play Russia

Salei said his suspension "was like a good and bad thing. "It worked for me, but I didn't do this

on purpose," he said of the head butt. it's not a real smart idea because I got a big fine and lost a lot of money. 'People were asking me: 'Did you do

this on purpose or something?" I was like: 'Yeah, right. I planned to get exactly two games at this time.' No, I was not doing this on purpose. It was a more ohysical game than usual." In the same game, Chicago's Gary

Suter, a defenseman for Team U.S.A., cross-checked Anaheim's Paul Kariya in the jaw after Kariya scored a goal. Because he is still recovering from the resulting concussion, Kariya's participation for Team Canada is uncertain. "We were being really mean to each

didn't do like really bad head-butting. I just kind of flipped."

He said his entire country is watching Olympic telecasts on television at 7

'Most people don't know what kind of country it is or where it is," Salei said. "They keep asking: 'Where is Belarus?' When I don't want to talk too much I tell them it's part of Russia."

To get to Nagano in time for his first game on Feb. 7, Salei traveled by air for l hours and then by train from Tokyo. He sat on the floor between the cars,

puzzling the Japanese passengers.
"I got a ticket with no seat." Salei said. "It's not usual in Japan for people

OK, FIRST I'LL NEED AN ORDINARY THENTY-DOLLAR

to sit on the floor. And they were looking at me like, wow! I didn't want to stand. I was tired."

Belarus, which tied Japan, 2-2, on Tuesday, must face the United States on

Saturday and Sweden on Monday. They wear red uniforms that look like those worn by the great old teams from the Soviet Union in the 1970s and

Andy Murray, an assistant coach for Team Canada, scouted Belarus and said the team also plays the way the old

Soviets used to. 'They're kind of throwback," Murray said. "It kind of brings you back a few years. Drop passes, possession in the neutral zone, not shooting the puck

in, just hanging onto the puck." Murray also warned that the format of the tournament was "set up for upsets" and that Belarus "could certainly make it difficult for some teams, no doubt

■ Kazakstan Moves to the Final

Kazakstan advanced to the final round of the Olympic men's hockey tournament Tuesday with a 4-3 upset of Slovakia, which lost the Group A winner-take-all matchup despite the addition of Petr Bondra and fellow NHL standout Robert Svehla, The Associated Press reported.

'I got in last night late and the flight wasn't short, but that's no excuse," said Bondra, an All-Star winger with the Washington Capitals, "I'm very disappointed. I'll think about this for the rest of my life."

Bondra did not start but received ample playing time and wore the "A" assigned to the team's assistant cap-

He scored a power-play goal off a pass from Svehla with 7:44 left to make

But Alexander Koreshkov scored the game-winner on a breakaway with 1:21 go, slipping the puck u pads of goaltender Igor Murin.

That put Kazakstan, a newcomer on the Olympic hockey scene, into the next round with teams brimming with NHL

"Our team today played its best game in history," said the Kazakstan coach, Boris Alexandrov. "It is already a success that we are here now. The fact that our team ended among the top eight teams is already beyond our wildest expectations.

Bondra and Svehla, meanwhile, will play in a placement game Thursday before heading home.

HHY, DID DAD TELL YOU HOW THIS WORKS?

Slovakia outshot Kazakstan, 32-25, including 10-6 in the final period.

UNICLE MAX IS

NO, IT MORKS
MUCH BETTER
WITH A THENTY,
OR A FIFTY,
IF YOU HAVE

DENNIS THE MENACE

'I guess we'll have to wait till he Yanng to get your Bubblegum Back'



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PEANUTS



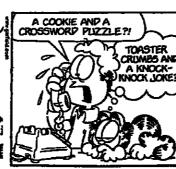
SO, BERNADETTE, HOW ABOUT DINNER AND A MOVIE?

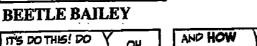














I ALREADY HAVE

BLONDIE



...LLINCH AND A BIKE RIDE?















DOONESBURY







PAC

Germans Lead Luge

LUGE Barbara Niedernhuber of Germany took the halfway lead in the women's luge Tuesday after two runs on the Spiral at Iizuna

Kogen.
Niedemhuber, a 23-year-old soldier, trains with Georg Hackl, the men's gold medalist at Nagano, at the Koenigsee club in southern Germany. She trailed Silke Kraushaar, another German, after the first run but was faster over the second run. Niedernhuber's combined time of 1 minute 42.319 put her 56 thousandths of a second ahead.

Angelika Neuner of Austria, the 1992 silver medalist, was third after the opening pair of runs, a third of a second behind.

Another German, Susi Erdmann who won a bronze medal in 1992 and a silver in 1994, was fourth, more than half a second behind Niedernhuber.

Gerda Weissensteiner, the reigning Olympic champion, was 10th, 1.423 seconds behind.

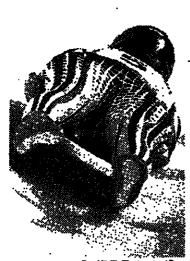
The competition concludes with two runs Wednesday. (AFP)

Bootees Are Not Bombs

LUGE Sandy Caligiore, the U.S. luge team spokesman, said Tues-day that he had not intended to make any political implications when he compared a feud over ra-cing shoes at the Nagano Olympics

with the atomic bomb.
Caligiore had said that giving controversial new boots to the powerful German luge team was like ''giving a superpower the atomic bomb.''

Caligiore said: "I did make the



David Phillip/The Austria's Angelika Neuner flying along in women's luge.

comments but they were in a luge context. There were no political overtones. It was a luge matter."

'We're talking about a German luge racer and the technological advances he had over other lugers. period."

"In using hyperbole, maybe I should have used a different analogy," Caligiore said Tuesday.

Japan is the only country to have had the atomic bomb used against it. (AP. Reuters)

Chelios Is U.S. Captain

For Lazutina,

A Golden 5K

By Nesha Starcevic

The Associated Press

HAKUBA, Japan - A year ago, the

cross-country skier Larissa Lazutina

was a basket case, frustrated by a dis-

appointing performance at the World

Championship and conflicts with her

Russian team. She came close to ending

Instead, she broke away from the Russian national team's training program.

Now she is an Olympic champion.

Lazutina finally won the Olympic

gold that's been missing from her

CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING

trophy collection, bursting from behind

Tuesday to clinch the women's five-kilometer classical race.

nova of the Czech Republic by 4.8

seconds, while Bente Martinsen of Nor-

way, the World Cup leader this season, won the bronze, 11.5 seconds behind

Lazutina's time of 17 minutes 37.9

Lazutina, who had won a silver in the opening 15-kilomèter race on Sunday.

After seeing her closest challengers fade

in the home stretch Tuesday during a

snowstorm, Lazutina buried her face in

her hands and burst into tears.
"No, I am sorry, but I can't tell you

what I was thinking about," she said.

had attitude that's helped me win."

10-kilometer freestyle race.

A little later, she gave a hint: "It's my

Tuesday's race also was the first leg

of the pursuit competition. Lazutina's

triumph means she will have a five-

second advantage in the second leg

Thursday, when the skiers return for a

The victory was vindication for

seconds.

The Russian beat Katerina Neuman-

ICE HOCKEY Chris Chelios, the Chicago Blackhawks defenseman, was named captain of the U.S. Olympic team Tuesday by Ron Wilson, the U.S. head coach. (Bloomberg) coach.

Mario Reiter of Austria cutting past a gate Tuesday on his first run in the men's combined slalom in Hakuba.

Snowfall Keeps the Medals Away

Two Men's Runs Are Held, but Alpine Skiing Schedule Slips

By Harvey Araton

NAGANO, Japan - Heavy snowfali continued to play havoc with Alpine skiing Tuesday, forcing postponement of the women's super-G race and preventing the awarding of the first Alpine medal of the 1998 Winter Games.

With the schedule backing up and more snow forecast, Olympic organizers decided to switch the women's super-G to Wednesday in Hakuba, Japan, where sunny conditions were expected. The men's downhill was moved to Thursday, along with the downhill part of the men's combined event.

Eager to at least get the Alpine program going, if only for the sake of fans who purchased tickets for the early part of the Games. Alpine officials did stage

ALPINE SKIING

the two slalom runs of the men's combined, a two-day event that mixes the disciplines of the slalom and the downhill. Nonetheless, refunds were being offered to those who purchased tickets to the men's downhill and the men's combined downhill.

Both runs of the combined slalom were completed by late morning in swirling snow and poor visibility, much to the dismay of Austria's Herman Maier, one of the favorites.

"The course was scandalous," Maier said. "The course had far too many turns and was too tricky. It was already broken and bad by the time I went down."

Maier, skiing 15th in the first run, lost his balance about two-thirds of the way down and wound up more than four seconds behind his teammate Mario Reiter, in eighth place after two runs. Lasse Kjus of Norway was second. Andrzej

Larisa Lazutina of Russia powering to a 4.8-second

margin of victory and her second medal of the Games. little pixies, the figure skaters

Christian Mayer, was fourth. Matt Grosjean of the United States, had a strong first run, finishing third, but he missed a gate in the second run and went out of the race.

Several skiers besides Maier were unhappy with the decision to stage the event, including Ed Podivinsky of Canada, who said: "It was really very icy. It is impossible to get an edge in ice that hard. The event is favoring the slalom skiers heavily over the downhillers. The downhill is easy here, and the slalom today was really difficult. It is really unfair that the slalom skiers have such an advantage in the Olympics."

The fear that weather would continue to dramatically alter conventional race conditions and thus throw all form out the window has become a major concern of the elite skiers in the Alpine events.

Even if the men's downhill, which was rescheduled after being snowed out of its traditional first Sunday date, is run Thursday, there are questions about the Happo'one course after so much snow has been dumped on it the past several days. Japanese Army troops have been working feverishly day and night, stomping the snow to harden the

Additional units have swelled the ranks of the original 540 soldiers assigned to maintain the course. By morning Tuesday, almost 1,000 were on the mountain. Another 247 were on the super-G course.

■ Reiter Builds Big Lead

On Tuesday, Reiter, a slalom specialist, built a big lead in the two 55-gate runs to maintain his medal chances in the downhill against the stronger speed-

Bachleda of Poland third and another member of the powerful Austrian team, Christian Mayer, was fourth.

racers, The Associated Press reported.

The Austrian clocked 47.37 seconds on the first run and 44.48 on the second for an aggregate time of one minute, 31.85 seconds.

Kjus went through in an overall 1:33.66 (48.09 and 45.57) to lie second ahead of Poland's Andrzej Bachleda (1:34.49), Austria's Christian Mayer (1:35.05) and the Norwegian 1997 world champion and 1994 Olympic silver medallist Kjetil Andre Aamodt (1:35.26).

"The first run was the hardest I've ever done," Kjus said. "I skied like a chicken in the second. I need to ski very well in the downhill, and he needs to ski

Maier, the overall World Cup leader but not a sialom racer, fared better on the second run and was eighth, 4.05 behind 'It was chaos,'' Maier said after the

first leg. "It was too difficult even for a special slalom. I've never seen anything

Ed Podivinsky of Canada, 1994 Olympic downhill bronze medalist, straddled a gate in the second run and departed in annoyance. That's the hardest slalom course

anyone's skied," he said. "It's way too difficult for a combined slalom. They make it unfair for the downhillers. Both course settings were way too demand-'I think the skiers looked really stu-

pid out there. The ice didn't help and it was pretty dumb of them. I think. I'm getting ready for the downhill - that's what I came for."

Twelve of the 38 starters, including Switzerland's 1997 world championship combined silver medalist. Bruno Kernen, failed to complete the first

and the gymnasts demonstrated that

revenue stream.

with the Super Bowl.

movement will be enhanced.

as will the movement's tele-

vision ratings and its bloated

Bikini bobsled, guaranteed, would rate right up there

Curling and snowboarding

are the newest medal sports at

the Nagano Games. The in-

clusion of the former sup-

ports my point that no activity is beyond consideration, while the latter emphasizes

how the Olympics, the true

global sports league, is de-

termined to incorporate Gen-

eration X before the Extreme

Games, invented by ESPN.

the U.S. sports cable broad-

caaster, becomes the unoffi-

cial Olympics for Generation

Olympic takeouts from the

following Winter X menu:

ice climbing, snow mountain

bike racing and snowmobile

Samaranch did not totally

dismiss the question of dog sled races, which has every-

one in Greenland pumped

and Alaska talking seces-

'It's not easy to find new

Samaranch con-

sports for the Winter

Olympics, but we have

It is interesting to note that

SHOCTOSS.

Look, then, for future

Seeking New Sports

To Play in the Cold

By Harvey Araton
New York Times Service

NAGANO, Japan - If

ou can dream up something

semi-athletically peculiar to

do on ice, snow or on the side

of a glacier, Juan Antonio Sa-

maranch has an Olympic

Samaranch, the president of the International Olympic

committee, says that one of

is remaining missions be

VANTAGE POINT

is to make the Winter Games

even bigger. More sports. More athletes. More spon-

sors. More mind-altering

raffic jams on slippery

is determined to make its con-

tribution so that the 21st cen-

tury marks the beginning of a

new era for women in world

sport," Samaranch said last

"Any new sport wishing to be included in the Olympic

program must comprise the

There is no place, he in-

sisted, for old-school sexism

within the Olympic move-

ment. But if you can find a

way to keep the layers of

clothing and body fat off the

The Olympic movement

More women.

vomen's events."

medal in his bag for you.

Sometimes the Clothes Do Not Make the Skater

By Jere Longman
New York Times Service

NAGANO, Japan - Ilya Kulik of Russia enters the Olympic men's figure skating competition on Thursday with the best chance to win and the worst taste in costume selection.

Forget that Kulik has pogo-stick legs that propel his jumps; that his takeoffs are light and effortless; that he lands with the softness of a leaf falling from a tree, and that he is a heartthrob. For all of his talent, he hardly knows how to dress for success.

His short program costume has gos-samer wings, which makes him look more like something in the wading pool at Sea World than a prospective

Olympic champion.
Then there is his much-discussed costurne for the long program Saturday: a black and yellow print number that looks like someone tried to turn a giraffe into an American school bus.

"Why reporters always ask about color?" said Tatiana Tarasova, who coaches the 20-year-old Kulik in Marlboro, Massachussetts, and thinks that his costume perfectly suits his airy, New York frame of mind as he skates to Gershwin's "Rhapsody in Blue."

"Yellow color, it's freedom," Tarasova said. "It's the color of the sun. A young man is walking around New York, and the sun hits him. Why not

yellow color?" There is no automatic point deduction for side-by-side costume failures, so Kulik at least is safe with the judges. His axel will matter much more than his

attire. If he can summon the stamina that he has lacked in the past, Kulik possesses the most thorough arsenal of artistry and athleticism in the men's field. His Russian teammate, Alexei

Yagudin, possesses a similar completeness, but at 17 he lacks Kulik's polish and refinement.

'Kulik and Yagudin are very technical in the jump department," said Joe Inman, an Olympic-level judge from the United States who is not scoring the men's competition.

'Kulik, however, has the ability to make a jump look seamless. He flows in and out equally well. And he has an inner understanding of what music is. He feels it. Yagudin has an arsenal of jumps, but he seems a little more raw to me."

Kulik, who began skating on a pond in Moscow when he was 4 years old, burst from anonymity in 1995 when he won the European championships on his first attempt. That is akin to a player coming out of high school to hit a three-pointer and win the National Basketball

Association championship. In the spring of 1996, he moved from Moscow to Massachusetts to work with Tarasova, who has produced four gold medals in dance and pairs competition. She could become the first person to coach a singles and a dance team to gold medals in the same Olympics if Kulik wins the men's title and Pasha Grishuk and Yevgeni Platov repeat as dance



Ilya Kulik of Russia performing in November in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

OLYMPIC SCHEDULE

WIDWISDAY, FEE. 3 1 BLATTHE, OR, NOZOWO — WART: 2019; I p.m. GUNGLINN, I p.m. GUNGLINN, KATULZOWO — WHOMEN COUNTY OF COMMON VS. OWEGEN, 9 G.M.; NOTWOY VS. GERMANY, 9 G.M.; BITHORN VS. United Stokes, 9 G.M.; Appan VS. Norwey, 7 p.m.; United Stokes vs. Dermark, p.m.; Canada vs. Bithorn, 7 p.m.; Germany, vs. Sweeter, p.m.; Canada vs. Bithorn, 7 p.m.; Germany, p.m.; Canada vs. Bithorn, 7 p.m.; Germany, p.m.; Canada vs. Bithorn, 7 p.m.; Germany, p.m.; Lindows Stokes, vs. Sweeter, p.m.; Canada vs. Bithorn, 7 p.m.; Germany, p.m.; Lindows Stokes, vs. Sweeter, p.m.; Canada vs. Bithorn, 7 p.m.; Germany, p.m.; Lindows Stokes, vs. Sweeter, p.m.; Canada vs. Bithorn, 7 p.m.; Germany, p.m.; Lindows Stokes, vs. Sweeter, p.m.; Lindows Stokes, p.m.; Lind

SPIESDSKATING, NOGORO — WOMAN: JOUR METESS, 3 p.m. "HISTORIAN", MISS. 12

ALPINES SIGNING, Haland — Marie Downthill, 10
am; Combined (Downthill), 2 p.m.
GROSS COUNTRY SECRETA, Haland — Meir:
JOHn classical 9 a.m.; Women: 10km free. Noon.
CURLING, Karukawa — Meir: United States vs.
Germany, 9 a.m.; Britain vs. Japan, 9 a.m.; Normay vs.
Sweden, 9 a.m.; Britain vs. Japan, 9 a.m.; Normay, 7 p.m.; Jupan vs. United
States, 7 p.m. Women: Sweden vs. Canada, 7
p.m.; Britain vs. Germany, 7 p.m.; Jupan vs. United
States, 7 p.m. Women: Sweden vs. Canada, 2 p.m.;
Britain vs. Germany, 2 p.m.; United States vs. Norway,
2 p.m.; Demant vs. Japan, 2 p.m.

FREURE SUCATING, Nagano — Men. short program, 7 p.m.

FREUTRE STATE OFFICE PROPERTY AV S. B4, Noors A3 vs. B3, 4 p.m.; A2 vs. B2, 8 p.m. Women: China vs. Sweden, Noors United States vs. Japan. 4 p.m.; Finited vs. Conado, 8 p.m. Hottokes preferance.

"I dream about singles," Tarasova

Kulik, who left his parents and his younger sister, Svetlana, behind in Moscow, said he went to the United States because of better skating conditions. The ice at his Moscow rink was unreliable, he said. Sometimes the ice-smoothing machine was broken, or out of gas. Or the rink was too cold or too hot. Some-

times, he said, there was no ice at all. 'If you want to compete with guys at the top level, you better have the same

conditions they have," he said.
In Moscow, Kulik said, he lived an hour from the rink. In Marlboro, he is only five minutes away, and with four rinks available, there is a veritable buffet of skating at his disposal. But it is off-ice training that has made the biggest difference in his career.

Last summer, after Kulik finished fifth at the world championships, Tarasova brought in a conditioning coach.
Kulik built his stamina through a crosstraining regimen of weight-lifting, run-

ning and cycling. Then he began this season by spiking himself in the right foot with his blade, severing a ligament in his toe and su

taining tendon damage. He remained off the ice for several weeks in late summer. But his newfound endurance was evident in late December at an Olympic preview called the Champion Series Final in Munich.

After two-footing a quadruple jump. Kulik regained his composure and defeated all of his Olympic challengers, including Elvis Stojko of Canada, the 1994 silver medalist, and Todd Eldredge, the 1996 world champion.

"This is the first year his strength and physical condition are normal," Tarasova said. "He grew three centimeters last year, and his shoe grew two sizes. It was difficult for the muscles."

After he aggravated a pinched nerve in his back, Kulik skipped the recent European championships. Some wonder whether he was duck-

ing Yagudin, who won in Kulik's ab-In any case, Kulik said that his back is

better, and that while he is not 100

percent, "I have dealt with it."
"Three weeks ago, I had a lot of bad thoughts," he said. "I was disappointed missing Europeans, but my main competition is the Olympics.

He will trot out a quad and two tripletriple combination jumps in Saturday's long program. To groans from the fashion police, he will also trot out his black and vellow costume.

'I guess it will be the talk of the season, like Tara Lipinski's lutz," Ku-

SKATERS: Russian Pair Grabs the Gold

Continued from Page 1 .

received a deep cut to the head in a skating accident with her former partner and was left hospitalized and tempo-

rarily unable to speak. Both Russian pairs are coached by Tamara Moskvina, who has now produced three Olympic champions at the Yubileny ice rink in St. Petersburg.

The bronze medal went to Mandy Woetzel and Ingo Steuer of Germany. They seemed satisfied, considering that Steuer had suffered partly torn ligaments in his shoulder last month when he was hit by a car while standing in the street in his hometown of Chemnitz,

Germany. The bronze medal was a redemptive performance for the current world champions, who had to withdraw during the long program at the 1994 Winter Games when Woetzel fell and landed hard on her chin.

The American champions, Jason Dungjen and Kyoko Ina, finished fourth overall; just as they had done in the short program. They seemed jittery early on, as he put his hand down on a triple toe loop and their side-by-side spins were out of synch. They recovered but never

seriously challenged for a medal.

The other American couple, Jenni Meno and Todd Sand, struggled mightily and finished a disappointing ninth.

Curling Favorites March On

KARUIZAWA - Canada and Switzerland, the favorites in the Winter Olympics men's curling tournament, both won two games Tuesday to move to the top of the standings.

Sweden remained the only undefeated team after beating Denmark, 5-4, in 11 ends in the women's event. Canada followed up an 11-3 victory over the United States in the morning and a 10-3 victory over Britain in the

evening. Switzerland kept pace with a 10-4

morning victory over Britain and a 5-3 evening victory over Japan. In the morning, Japan upset Sweden, one of the favorites in the eight-term tournament in Kuruizawa. The Japanese team needed an extra end for its 65

"We're thrilled with the last two, games, against Canada yesterday and Sweden today; they just played right out of their minds," said the Japan coach

The top four teams qualify for the

WINTER OLYMPICS

year-old housewife who had brought her three children to see Shimizu win. meter Japanese high school record he set still stands. As a child he was pushed

"Everything has been so dark in Japan,

so many problems, and now suddenly it

is light again. Now we feel that we can

kindergarten teacher, waved a Japanese

SPEED SKATING

flag energetically as Shimizu rose on the

podium to get his gold medal, "We can

forget about all our country's problems

now," she said, smiling through her tears, "Look! I've already forgotten."

in the 500 meters but had a poor season

there was huge applause, I felt that all

these people were expecting Hiroyasu Shimizu would win the gold medal, and it was real pressure on me," he said.

But that pressure converted into en-

Shimizu, who comes from the north-

ergy that empowered me in the race."

ern Japanese island of Hokkaido, began

skating at the age of 4, and the 500-

until now, said he had been charged up by

the feverish cheering from fans.

Shimizu, who holds the world record

When my name was called and

Naoko Minemura, a 22-year-old

do anything.

Japan Forgets Itself as Shimizu Speeds to Victory

By Nicholas D. Kristof New York Times Service NAGANO—Buoying the spirits of his entire nation, Hiroyasu Shimizu won the 500-meter speed-skating race on Thesay to collect Japan's first gold Thesay to collect Japan's first gold Thesay to collect Japan's first gold

medal of the Nagano Olympics and OLYMPIC SCHEDULE prove himself the world's fastest man WEDNESDAY, FEE. 11 thrilled a Japan that has been deeply moubled by political scandals and economic malaise. Newspapers turned out "extras," the prime minister called, the crown prince and the crown princess cheered, and fans sobbed ecstatically in the grandstands as they watched Shim-A Brown 1971 ME STYLE SKING, 1772 - 1772 M. izu skate a victory lap holding Japanese HE HECKEY, WITH THE flags that spectators had handed to Signa State - Martiner, Single 2252 Martiner, martiner - 160 managing Giant" in Japan because he stands just 1.61 meters (5 feet, 3 inches) tall and 70

CONTROL OF THE SERVICE AND THE PROPER SEATING, VOICES - USE DIE ROW MONCHEA, 1922 July 2000, 27 of 27 periods an EA 4 pm. 12 of 20 pm Women lines Section Women to the Print of March 1880,

MONTH OARD, 1972 - House Prints Millians and particularly OFFERS RATING, 1977 - Ken 1878, A Tres Local 1 dreum about singles. Tage Kulik, ware left in puterts and rentages sister. Sixtuans behindag we, will be well to the bailed be Canada et a Dett et Autine condition i Mark Mark Waller SALL. Selectation the ice-smoot and have all miser, or on of me the first was two colder too hot Se. ties by and increase to read MIC Comment of the empete with pig ter and a retain have the 🏬 🎎 - 100 Kilik (all heine) the fruit the rick in Marbook y transmission of the same the as a common there is a venuble.

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land. The Dave.

March On

18:19.8:13. Yulla Tchepolova, Russia, 18:20.0: 14. Sytvia Honogoer, Switzerland, 18:29.6: 15. Mario Theori, Austria, 18:36.9: 16. Januslava Balasojova, Slovakia, 18:39.7; 17. Turdikid ieg. Finland, 18:42.8: 18. Satu Salo nen, Finland, 18:43.4: 19. Valentyna Shwchenka, Ukraine, 18:47.5: 20. Katrin Smi Strt. Estonio, 18:48.7; 21. Manuela Di Cerdo, Pay, 18:48.9; 22. Katerino Hanusova, Czech Republic, 18:49.1; 23. Elena Sinkevitch, Be

18:50.7; 25. Sumiko Yokoyama. Japan. 18:55.1; 26. Kall Wilhelm, Germany, 18:56.9; 18-55.1; 24. Koff Wilhelm, Germany, 18-56.9; 27. Oxonar Yoriskaya, Kazanistan, 18-57.3; 28. Jana Saldawa, Crech Republic, 19-00.4; 29. Sabina Valbusa, Italy, 19:00.4; 30. Constituze Blum, Germany, 19-02.4; 31. Fumiko Aski, Jopan, 19-04.8; 32. Sophile Villeneuva, Franca, 19-05.5; 33. Mulgozzafa Ruchaka, Poland, 19-06.4; 24. Nainsa Locen, Siovenia, 19-09.3; 35. Swettana Shishikhan, Kazanistan, 19-10.7; 24. Karlin Saetarisvist, Sweden, 19-10.7; 77. Auto Schulze, Germany, 19-14.7; 38. Signid

19:48.5; 59. Zuzuna Kocsmova, Czech Republic, 19:58.3; 60. Katazyna Gebaia, Poland, 19:58.6:1. Dornto Kwasny, Poland, 20:03.1; 95:28.6:1. Dornto Kwasny, Poland, 20:07.5; 63. Ludmillo Korolik, Belarus, 20:17.9; 64. Anne Condevana, Franca, 20:21.2; 65. Leura Wilson, United Stutes, 20:24.6; 66. Olga Selexnette Korolischa. 20:77.7; 67. Milan Kermotel.

son, United States, 20:24.4; 66. Olga Selezne-va, Kazaisston, 20:27.7; 67. Nian Kemppel-United States, 20:29.7; 68, Luan Zhengrang, China, 20:30.6; 69. Monica Lazarut, Romania, 20:49.5; 70. Infan Nikoultichina, Bulgaria, 20:52.6; 71. Infan Rudike, Lativia, 20:54.1; 72. Guo Dongling, China, 20:58.0; 73. Onne Kurg-Estonia, 20:58.7; 74. Sam Renner, Canada, 21:02.4; 75. Lawa McCabe, United States, 21:17.6; 77. Johne Forfier, Canada, 21:20.8; 78. 21:17.5; 77. Joine Forfier, Canada, 21:20.8; 78. Anzela Brice, Latvia, 21:29.2; 79. Katerina Anastassiou, Greeco; 23:15.8.

CURLING TUESDAY CESULTS

PAIRS PIOURI SKATHIS

eland, France, 17.0; 18. Inga Ro-

K. Shoftmany (E. Koreshikov, A. Koreshikov, A. Koreshikov (P. Svehid), (pp), 7. K.-A. Koreshikov (I. Zemiyanov, Sbots en Gosi—S. 9-13-10—32. K. 6-13-6—25. Gealles—S.-Igor Murin (25-21). K.-Vitaliy Yeremeyev (32-29). drievsky, A. Skabelka), 2. J.-M. Kaboyamo (X. Fujita, T. Sokai), (pp), 2nd Period—3. B.-

France 0 1 1—2
France 0 0 0—0
1st Period—None. 2nd Period—1, G.-M.
Mockey (P. Draistell, M. Luedemenn). 3rd
Period—2, G.-P. Draiselli (U. Krupp). Shots
on Gool— G. 13-8-10—31. F. 4-12-9—25.

One of the first things he said after the race was, "I would like to thank my father in heaven." When Overland, the bronze medalist, was asked how Shimizu managed to win despite his small size, he did not pause. "It's pretty simple," he said. "Shimizu has the best technique of any of the sprinters. He gets everything out of each push, and that explains why he wins gold medals and sets world records."

into skating by his father, and he said

Tuesday that he sometimes resented it

then - and that he firmly decided on his

own to pursue skating only following the death of his father seven years ago

after a long struggle with cancer.

Shimizu smiled but offered a slightly different explanation for his success. 'Compared to these guys on each side of me," he said mischievously, looking at the silver and bronze medalists towering over him, "I face less wind resistance." Later, he credited his victory to determination, saying, "My desire to win was

probably stronger than anybody else's."

And why did he want to win so much? "I think of my mother, who is alone

now," he said, "and I just want to make her happy.

Several of the skaters had trouble staying in their lanes around the corners, and there was one bad crash. Grunde Njos of Norway was on the inside lane but glided outside, slipped, touched his hand to the ice and then completely lost his footing and went sliding into the wall.

Erben Wennemas, of the Netherlands, was on the outside and tried desperately to skate around and over Nios. He almost made it, but he tripped over Njos' leg and went crashing into the wall as well. He screamed and held his left arm, and an ambulance crew took him to a hospital. He suffered a dislocated left shoulder.

Neither Wennemas nor Njos had been regarded as a likely medal win-

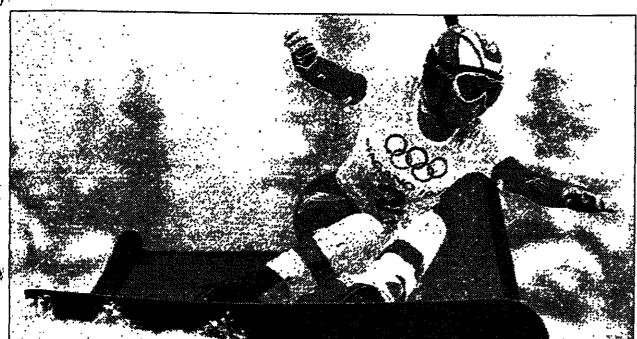
The national pride in Shimizu's triumph was evident everywhere. Normally, security officials at the Olympics have been sticklers for the rules, and on Tuesday night a Japanese policeman initially refused to allow a reporter through a passage at the end of the press section of the grandstands. But when the reporter explained that he wanted to



Hiroyasu Shimizu heading to victory and to his countrymen's cheers.

interview cheering fans, moments after Shimizu's victory, the policeman grinned, looked around conspiratorially, and led the way through a series of passageways before emerging in the middle of the crowd of fans.

"Today was a great day," the po-liceman said, and then he vanished. Shimizu wept as he embraced his friends and coaches after his victory.



world," he said, "and I wanted to show everyone that even though I'm the smal-

eigners, and I wanted to show that even

if you are smaller than others, you can

still win so long as you believe in your-

Shimizu set an Olympic record in his race Tuesday, 35.59 seconds, and easily

beat Jeremy Wotherspoon, a Canadian

who won the silver, and Kevin Over-

land, also of Canada, who won the

bronze. Under new rules adopted for

this Olympics, the medals went to those

with the lowest combined time in two

competed against, Shimizu burst across

the ice bent low, a whirring blur of pump-

ing arms and legs, and the gap between

his combined time and that of Woth-

erspoon was greater than the gap between

and when his time was posted on the

electronic scoreboard the Japanese

"I'm so happy — that's why I'm crying," sobbed Ippongi Mikoto, a 34-

Shimizu's race was the last of the day,

any two other finalists in the top 30.

crowds went wild in the grandstands.

Unlike the large, powerful racers he

races, one Tuesday and one Monday.

"Most Japanese are smaller than for-

lest I can still win.

self," he added.

An instant national hero, Shimizu

Shimizu, 23, is dubbed "the Little

He hailed his medal as a victory of

spirit, as an affirmation that what counts

is not the physique one is given but the

"I'm the smallest skater in the

kilograms (154 pounds).

determination one shows.

Karine Ruby — who won seven straight World Cup events earlier this season — starting her first run Tuesday.

Gold for Ruby in Tricky Olympic Debut

two seconds to cruise to a historic vic-

Ruby, who won seven consecutive World Cup events earlier this season, finished the second leg with a combined time of 2 minutes, 17.34 seconds to claim the first ever women's Olympic

snowboarding gold medal.

Heidi Renoth, fifth after the first leg. finished a distant second to take silver, some 1.83 behind the leader. Brigitte Koeck of Austria put together a spectacular second leg that was 1.6 faster than Ruby but could move no closer

than third after a seventh place finish in the opening run. "I was so nervous at the top before the second leg, it was unbelievable. Now-I feel so at peace, the feeling is

amazing," Ruby said as she celebrated her place in Olympic history. Renoth led with two riders to go but

YAMANOUCHI, Japan — Karine France's Isabelle Blanc screamed down Ruby of France, the overwhelming fathe course on target to challenge Ruby's vorite, took the women's giant slalorn snowboarding gold Tuesday. She built on an enormous first leg lead of almost the marker, sliding past the finish line.

SHOWBOARDING

The scoreboard immediately showed her with the fastest time, confusing Renoth, who thought silver had just

turned to bronze. As Ruby celebrated her gold, the U.S. team, widely expected to crowd the medals podium could only sit and watch after its three top riders crashed

out of the sport's Olympic debut. When the first of the two runs began in a mild snowstorm at 9 A.M., all four American riders were considered contenders. But the only one who managed to complete the course was Sondra Van Ert, and she ended up in 12th place, 8.56

seconds behind Ruby. The conditions were not optimum for snowboarding. After nearly 24 hours of continuous snowfalls — which forced

had to watch as Ruby overtook her and organizers to delay the race from Monday to Tuesday and which continued through both Tuesday's runs — the course had changed from a hard icy pitch in training to a soft, slower track, racers said.

"I'm in a little bit of shock right 'said Rosey Fletcher of the United States. "The snow was a lot different. For the best-caliber race, like this one, the snow conditions should be the top. But right now, it's a race for survival. A lot of people who finished are two. three, four seconds out. That's not the way a race should be."

Lisa Kosglow of the United States said: "The women are not this bad. It's a terrible showcase. I don't think any-

body looks good right now."
Ruby looked better than good. But the Americans were not the only ones who belly-flopped in their Olympic debuts. Of the 31 women entered, seven did not complete the first run, and other highly regarded riders, such as Margherita Parini of Italy and Steffi Von Siebenthal of Switzerland, struggled before they finally skidded to a halt. (Reuters, NYT)

Breaking the Ice With North Koreans Speed-Skating Unit Proves Surprisingly Outgoing in Nagano

By Nicholas D. Kristof New York Times Service

TAGANO - A group of North Korean athletes and coaches sat over lunch here in the Olympic Village and looked somberly at one another as they were told that Americans usually think of North Koreans as shy, humorless and grimly serious.

Then they roared with laughter, doubling over their plates, the gales of hilarity resounding through the cafeteria. 'Human beings are all the same,'

Yun Chol, 23, who is studying English in his spare time, said when he and the others had recovered their breath. 'Politicians may be different, but people are all the same.

North Korea remains a hard-line Communist country that is probably the most isolated place on earth, and it was unclear until the last minute whether North Korea would even send a delegation to the Olympics. But the 10 speed skaters who did show up - along with three coaches and seven mysterious "administrative officials" -- have been uncommonly friendly, funny and open to making friends.

Bedded six to a room in the Olympic Village, beneath a sign declaring "Our Country's Pride Depends on You," the athletes and coaches have been sampling McDonald's french fries and pursuing a modern twist to the "Ping Pong diplomacy" of the kind that warmed relations between China and the United States in 1971. If they portray a good image of their country on and off the ice — they could win medals in short-track skating events, especially the women's relay — then North Korea may try to use its athletes more to build bridges with the outside world.

If these athletes do a bit better than their personal records, then North Korea is planning to send them out as often as possible," said Kim Pong Hi, a coach. "It depends on them - not on their medals, but on how well they skate."

North Korea has given some signs that it bopes to open up a little bit to the outside world, particularly since Kim Jong II, the country's longtime "Dear Leader," formally took power in the autumn. The North Korean athletic delegation seems to reflect that cautious

nterest in opening up. When the North Koreans first arrived at the Olympic Village, they chose to eat together in a far corner of the huge cafeteria, away from anybody else. Then they gradually began taking their meals closer to the rest of the athletes, and they began exchanging the odd hello with South Koreans.

By this week, when a reporter sneaked past security into the Olympic Village and met the North Koreans, they were holding court in the middle of the cafeteria and exchanging cheery comments with South Korean athletes and coaches. North Koreans typically flee any American reporter as if they were competing in an Olympic race, but this time they were friendly and even charming.

Still, they do not come across as precisely the same as athletes from Canada or Italy. When the North Koreans were asked whether they thought that if they won a medal they would be able to meet the Dear Leader, they said they probably would. Mr. Yun added, "And that is the biggest dream we have."

The North Koreans are not wearing the badges of the Dear Leader's father, Kim Il Sung, who was known in the country as the "Great Leader." Such badges have been worn by virtually all North Koreans for decades, but the athletes said that it would be inappropriate to wear the badges in their informal athletic clothing.

The Japanese government has been apprehensive that North Korean athletes might defect during the Olympics and trigger a political crisis, and the seven administrative personnel may include minders to keep an eye on the athletes. But they do not give the impression that they are under enormous scrutiny.

In the Olympic Village, they travel around in small groups of twos and threes, and when a visitor knocked on the door of their apartment, it turned out to be unlocked — burglary apparently is not a major problem in North Korea — with just a single athlete there by herself. She seemed surprised by the intrusion but, in the kind of gesture inconceivable in the past, amiably showed the visitor around.

While the rooms did not display Communist posters and the athletes comments did not include the typical reverential comments about the Great Leader and the Dear Leader, they left no doubt about their patriotism. Kim Jong Hui, an 18-year-old skater traveling outside of her country for the first time, recalled the scene when she said farewell to her parents, and it did not include American-style admonitions to

be careful and not party too much.
"My mom said," Miss Kim recalled, Do your best, so that the Korean flag will rise up over the skies of Japan.'

UNG Sook Koh, a Korean-American from New York City who has worked for many years to use sports to build ties between North Korea and the outside world, is in Nagano. She said that the North Koreans here were much more open than in the past.

"They surprised me by how friendly and open they are here," Ms. Koh said. They're more flexible now than they were in Barcelona or Atlanta or ever before. Their atmosphere is exceptionally friendly.'

She said the flexibility of the North Koreans suggested that this was a good time for the United States and North Korea to begin sporting exchanges.

Despite widespread signs of severe hunger in North Korea, the athletes said they were getting plenty of food, and they all appeared well-fed and healthy.

The short-track skating events are toward the end of the Olympics, so the athletes have been spending their time practicing and praying for medals well, not quite praying, given their country's Communist policy, but ear-

nestly hoping. "If somebody gets a medal," Mr. Kim said, "there'll be a huge reception at the airport when we go home, and then there'll be people lining the roads into the city, cheering for us. Our wish No. 2 is for a gold medal, wish No. 3 is for a silver, and wish No. 4 is for a

And the top wish? "Our wish No. 1." Mr. Kim said with a grin, "is for the reunification of

bronze.

OLYMPIC SCOREBOARD

3A. Kurin Sueterivist. Sweden. 19:12.9: 37. Anke Schubz, Germany, 19:1A.7: 38. Sigrid Wille. Germany, 19:15.4: 39. Bernadeta Pi-otrousta, Poiand. 19:17.4: 40. Maryna Pes-friskova, Ukraine. 19:17.4: 41. Eera Gorass-ta, Ukraine. 19:18.2: 42. Renate Rolder. Aus-fria, 19:18.3: 43. Elin Ek. Sweden. 19:18.2: 44. Svetiano Destreyich. Kazukstan. 19:25.3: 45. Andrea Huber, Switzerland. 19:27.4: 46. To-tanoria Otolin. Japan. 19:28.8: 47. Backie Scott. Canada. 19:32.6: 48. Svetiana Kamotskaya. Japan 4, Sweden 5 Canada 11, United States 3 Switzerland 10, Britain 4 Sweden 7, Germany 6 moral Otokr. Japan. 19-28.8: 47. Beckle Scott. Canada, 19-32.6: 48. Svetikan Kamatskaya. Belarus. 19-32.7: 49. Annick Pierrel. France. 19-33.4: 50. Kumika Yokoyama. Japan. 19-34.5: 51. Kerrin Petty. United Siates. 59. Cristel Valvira. Estonia, 19-41.4: 54. Milaine Theriaut. Canada. 19-41.5: 55. Irina Slaripnik, Belarus. 19-42.7: 56. Anda Nyman. Slaripnik, Belarus. 19-42.7: 56. Anda Nyman. Pinland. 19-48.0: 58. Alzbeta Havrencilova, Slavakia. 19-48.5: 59. Zuzuna Kocumova, Czech Republic. 19-58.3: 60. Kartaryna Gebala. Poland. United States 7, Norway & CROSS COUNTRY 2. Roledna Neumanova Czech Rep. 17:427. 3. Bente Martinsen, Norway, 17:49.4. 4. Nina Govrillok, Russia, 17:50.3; 5. Olga

FIGURESKATING

. Oksana Kazakova and Ariur Dmitriev Russia, 1.0: 2. Yelena Berezhnaya and Arlon Sikharulidze, Russia, 2.0: 3. Mandy Woetzel Sicharuliaze, Russal, 2.cr. 3. Manay Wortzel and Ingo Steuer, Germany, 2.0; 4. Kyake Ind and Jason Dungjen. United States, 4.0; 5. Shen Xue and Zhoo Hongbo, China, 5.0; 6. Sarah Abitbel and Stephane Bernadis,

France, 6.0: 7. Markra Yektsavo and Andrel Byshkov, Ryssia. 7.0: 8. Peggy Schwarz and Mirko Muller, Germany, 8,0; 9, Jenni Meno and Tadd Sana, United States, 9,0; 10. Evgenta Flomento and Igor Marchenco, Urraine, 10,0; 11. Dorota Zagorska and Mariusz Studek, Poland, 11,0; 12. Kristy Surgeant and Kris Wirtz, Conado, 12,0; 13. Damielle McGrath and Stephen Carr, Australia, 13,0; 14. Marina Khatturina and Andrel Kroutov, Kazakstan, 14,0; 15. Kaforina Berankova and Otto Diobola, Czech Republic, 15,0; 16. M.-Cloude Savard-Gagnar and Luc Brodet, 16,0; 17. Sabrina Lefrancois and Nicoles Osseland, France, 17,0; 18. Inga Ro-

1. Oksana Kazakova and Artur Dmitriev.

Marry, 4.0.

A. Kyoko ina and Jason Dungjen, United States, 6.0: 5. Shen Xwe and Zhao Hongto. China. 9.0: 6. Sarah Abiltool and Slephane Bernadis, France, 9.5: 7. Marina Yetisova and Andrei Bushkov, Russic, 9.5: 8. Jenni Meno and Todd Sand, United Slotes, 12.0: 9. Peggy Schwatz, and Mirka Muller, Germany, 12.5: New Xwest, 12.0: 9. Peggy Schwatz, and Mirka Muller, Germany, 12.5: New Xwest, 12.0: 9. Peggy Schwatz, and Mirka Muller, Germany, 12.5: New Xwest, 12.0: 9. Peggy Schwatz, 12 10. Derote Zagarska and Martius: Sludek, Potand, 14.0: 11. Eugenia Filonenka and Igor Marchesco. Utraine, 14.5: 12. Kristy Sargeant and Kris Wirtz. Canada, 17.5: 13. Danielle McGrath and Stephen Care, Australia, 20.5; 14. Marina Khalturina and Andrei Venten. Knukova and Otto Diabota, Czech Republic 22.0; 16. M.-Claude Savard-Gognon and Luc Brodet, Conado, 22.0; 17. Sabrino Lefrancais and Nicolas Osseland, Franca; 25.5; 18. Inga Rodionova and Aleksondr Anlichenko, Azer-

baijan, 27.5; 19. Mariya Krasiliseva and Alek-sander Chestnikh, Armenia, 28.0: 20. Marie Aral and Shin Amane, Japan, 30.0.

ICE HOCKEY

Tst Period—1, I.-S. Figiluzzi (C. Blofore). 2, I.-S. Figiluzzi. Zad Period—3, L.-M. Chitarroni (M. De Angelis, G. Busillo), (pp). 4, I.-R. Romoser (R. Nardello). 2rd Period—5, A.-G. Rossmann (A. Puschnig). 6. I.-B. Zarrillo (L. Topatigh. S. Figliuzzi). 7. A.-W. Kromp (T. Segrie). Shots ou Gost—A.- 7-6-9—22. I.- 17-

LUGE AFTER TWO RUNS

WOMEN'S SINGLES Barbara Niedernhuber, Germann, Immute, 42:319 seconds; 2. Silke Kraushoos, Germann, 1:42:375; 2. Angelika Neuner, Austria, 1:42:503; 4. Susi Erdmann, Germann, 1:42:823; 5. Andrea Togwerker, Austria, 1:42:823; 6. Erdn Warren, United Stofes, 1:43:105; 7. Beltiany Colcaterro-McMohon, United States, 1:43:479; 8. Carseny Myles, United States, 1:43:479; 8. Carseny Myles, United States, 1:43:479; 8. Sonia, Margarenthis. ed Stotes, 1:43.449; 9. Sonja Maruzenreiter. Austria, 1:43.720; 10. Gerda Weissensteinez, Hoty, 1:43.742; 11. Natalia Jakuschenko, Ukraine, 1:43.760; 12. Natalia Obkirchez, floty,

Ukryjenie, 1953-1967 12. kalarije Cobarchee, kristo 1943,877; 13. Amma Criston, Latvic, 1943,977; 14. Buta Gallie, Latvic, 1944,173; 15. Doris Preindl, Holy, 1944,206; 17. Marie Jesenacikova, Slovetida, 1944,342; 18. Intra Goubidna, Russija. 1:44,514; 20. Augels M. Pout, New Zedands 1:44,788; 21. Helen Novikos, Estonia, 1:45,354; 22. Shino Yenogisawa, Japan, 1:45,468; 23. Jurita Salika, Lofvia, 1:45,559; 24. Yunde Koboyashi, Japon, 1:45,854; 25. Anne Aber-notty, U.S. Virgin Islands, 1:45,974; 25. Eriko Yennada, Japon, 1:45,907; 27. Confran Drogon, 1:45,987; 28. Islands, Barchitantia, 1:45,987; 28. Islands, Barchitantia Romania, 1:46.962 28. Iginia Baccalandro Volentina, Venezuela, 1:42.194; 29. Lee Yi-tang, Teiwan, 1:50.269.

SKIING MEN'S COMBINED 1. (7) Morio Relier, Austria, 1:31.85; 2. (2) Losse Kjus, Norway, 1:33.66: 3. (10) Andrzel

Bochiedo, Poland, 1:34.49; 4. (3) Christian Mayer, Austria, 1:35.05; 5. (4) Kjefil Autoodt, Norway, 1:35.26; 6. (5) Guernher Moder, Austria, 1:35.36; 7. (1) Finn Jagge, Norway, 1:35.36; 8. (15) Hermann Maler, Austria, 1:35.90; 9. (12) Marcel Maxe, Czech Republic, 1:36.17; 10. (16) Kristian Ghedina, Italy, 1:40.35; 11. (29) Alessandra Fottori, Italy, 1:40.71; 12. (31) Luca Cariforne, (http://dx.12.01).

1:40,71; 12 (31) Luca Cattones, Italy, 1:42,92; 13. (11) Peter Pen, Stovenia, 1:43,83; 14. (23) Ales Brazonsek, Stovenia, 1:43,15; 15. (39) Juergen Hasier, Liechtenstein, 1:45,27; 16. (30) Nilkolory Skriabin, Ukraines, 1:47,17; 17. (32) Erik Seieria, Italy, 1:47,46; 18. (25) Thomas Grob, Chile, 1:47,92; 19. (36) Rainer Grob, Chile, 1:53,13; 20. (34) Zourab Dildistwill, Georgia, 7:155,26; 21. (38) Poul Schwarzucher-Joyce, Ireland, 1:56,22; 22. (38) Poul Schwarzucher-Joyce, Ireland, 1:56,22; 22. (37) Tommy Moo, United States, DNS; 23. (6) Jesnej Koblor, Slovenia, DNF; 24. (13) Kalle Palander, Fritand, DNF; 25. (14) Bruno Karnen, Switzerland, DNF; 26. (17) James Ormand, Britain, DNF; 27. (20) Juerg Gruenerieder, Switzerland, DNF; 29. (21) Ame Hardensberg, Denmark, DNF; 30. (24) Tels Broberg, Denmark, DNF; 30. (24) Tels Broberg, Denmark, DNF; 30. (24) Tels Broberg, United States, DNF; 32. (27) Ya-

Rosener, United Stotes, DNF; 32. (27) Yo-suyuki Toldahita. Japan. DNF; 33. (35) An-draw Freshwater, Britain. DNF; 34. (37) Chad Flotscher, United States, DNF; 35. (6) Matthew Groseum. United States, DNF; 36. (9) Paul Accolo, Switzerland, DNF; 37. (19) Ed Podyinsky, Canada, DNF: 38, (28) Linas /aitikus, Lithuania, DNF: 39. (18) Peter Dischev, Bülgaria, DQ.

SNOWBOARDING WOMEN'S GIANT SLALOM

FINAL

1. Karine Ruby, France 2:17,34

2. Heidi Renath, Germany, 2:19.1 Heidl Renoth, Germany, 219.17.
 Heidl Renoth, Germany, 219.17.
 Brigifte Koeck, Austria, 219.42.
 Lidia Treftel, Italy, 219.71; S. Ursula Fingetes, Austria, 220.36; 6. Marfon Pasch, Italy, 221.34; 7. Dagmar Moir Unter Der Eggen, Italy, 222.42; 8. Isabeli Zedlacher, Austria, 2:22.92; 9. Sandra Formend, Germany, 2:23.10; 10. Marie Birid, Sweden, 2:23.91; 11. Cecile Pfancherel, Switzerland, 2:34.07; 12. Sandra Van Ert, United States,

SPEED SKATING

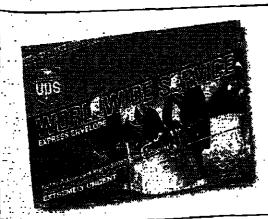
FINAL

1. Hiroyasu Shimizu, Japan, 1:11.35.

2. Jeremy Watherspoon, Canada, 1:11.84.

3. Kevin Overland, Canada, 1:11.86. . Sylvain Bouchard, Canada, , 1:12.00: 5.

4. Sylvain Bouchard, Canada, , 1:12.00: 5. Pairick Bauchard, Canada, 1:12.05: 6. Cosey FitzRandolph, United States, 1:12.20: 7. Kim Yoon-man. South Korea, 1:12.36: 8. Lee Kyuhyuk, Sauth Korea, 1:12.55: 9. Ermanno toriotii, Italy, 1:12.66: 10. Roger Strom, Nanway, 1:12.68: 11. Michael Kuenzel, Germany, 1:12.75: 12. Jan Bos, Neitherlands, 1:12.77: 13. Manaba Horil, Jopan, 1:12.78: 14. Sorgal Klevchenya, Russla, 1:12.86: 15. Hiroski Yomakoge, Jopan, 1:12.97: 16. Toshiyuk Kurohe, Sauth Korea, 1:12.97: 16. Toshiyuk Kurohe, Island, 1:13.04: 19. Christian Breuer, Germany, 1:13.19: 20. Aleksandr Golubey, Germany, 1:13.19; 20. Aleksandr Golubev, Germany, 1:13.19; 21. Jokko Leevwangh, Netherlands, 1:13.23; 22. Powel Abraticevicz, Polond, 1:13.27; 23. Marc Pelchot, U.S., 1:13.35; 24. Vadim Shokshukboyer, Kazakhstan, 1:13.44; 25, David Culti-shank, U.S., 1:13.53; 26, Tomosz Swist, Poland, 1:13.54; 27, Yu Li, China, 1:13.58; 28, Hongbo Liu, China, 1:13.72; 29. Roland Brun ner, Austria, 1:13.76; 30. Davide Carly, Haly 1:13.91; 31. Dengwen Dol, China, 1:13.98; 32. Vladimir Klepinin, Kazakhetan, 1:14.14; 33. Aleksandr Kibalko, Russia, 1:4.18; 34. Kim Aleksandr Kibdisch Russia, 1:4.18: 34. Kan Jin-son, South Koren, 1:14.32: 35. Oleg Kostrontiin, Ukraine, 1:14.46: 36. Cory Car-pender, U.S., 1:15.11: 37. Zsoit Boto, Hungary, 1:16.56: 38. Ids Pastma, Natherlands, 1:16.47: Erben Wennemars, Netherlands, did not fin-



IT DOESN'T GET ANY FASTER THAN THIS.



Consider it done.

Judy Pails News Traffers

s. Clinton

Cloud

Scandal

Mather

File Grand Jury

May of Testimore

By Russell Baker

NEW YORK — The country was half-mad with motel. tales of sex. "At the highest level," as they used to say before the presidency became a display window for second childhood.

If we didn't escape soon I cruelly manhandled by tormight start confessing about rents sloshing across the the time, back in 19 and 54, windshield. when I smuggled a copy of "Lady Chatterley's Lover" past the U.S. Customs Smut Police. Those were the days.

Now we have seen "Deep Throat." We have mastered the Playboy philosophy. We bridge" when my wife's celhave yawned at the centerfolds of Hustler magazine. We have watched a solemn saying. committee of the U.S. Senate cross-examine witnesses about a film character called

babble about the reproductive we yearn for the grave. There organs, "I cried. "Let's take were tornadoes everywhere.

anticipation was even keener straight from the shoulder: than the sense of relief at having climbed out of a sewer, because, with Cuba lying so the seven-mile bridge. With close to Key West, we would land in sight, my wife's inbe ridiculously close to Fidel sistence became implacable.

the Evil Empire has collapsed. The room had an armchair - except China - Castro that collapsed when sat in. continues to menace the free The television was out. There world from his Red citadel was no radio. situated within easy striking distance of Key West's sponge shops.

l am telling her we will ful frisson of fear at Key West, so close to Castro.

She asked why the car felt button. as if it was trying to fly. I was

patient about explaining the physical sensation created by an occasional wind gust.

She said let's look for a

I said nonsense. We were already in the Keys. Key West was a mere hour or two away. To be sure, the windshield wipers were now being

"Washington's C policy —," I said. "A motel," she said.

We had just entered a long piece of overseas causeway known as "the seven-mile lular phone went off.

"Fidel Castro --- ," I was

The call was from a friend Long Dong Silver. in that part of Florida. Where "Enough of this endless were we? Still driving? Did organs." I cried. "Let's take a kayak to Goshen or Nyack and get away from it all."

"Better yet." said my wife, "Let's hop in the car and nip down to Key West."

So in we hopped and downward we nipped. The sense of asked my wife. I gave it to her articles in the shoulder.

On the seven-mile bridge.

Obviously, we made it over A motel was visible at Big At a time when the rest of Pine Key. There was a room.

> Twenty minutes later there was a total power failure. It stayed total for hours.

I am telling her we will Next morning we learned experience a similar delight-that it had been a fairly goodsized disaster. I am already being fitted with a new panic

New York Times Service

Woody Allen: The European Tour Revisited

By Mike Zwerin

PARIS — According to Barbara Kopple, whose feature-length documentary "Wild Man Blues" opens in Paris this week, its star, Woody Allen, defines himself first and foremost not as a writer, director or actor but as a musician. She and her crew followed him as he and his band toured 18 European cities playing New Orleans jazz in

Before leaving New York, she met with Allen in his apartment and in the course of conversation sheasked him: "Are you excited about this tour?" She watched him as he turned

uneasy: "No. I don't want to go. They put this together two years ago. I never thought the time would really come." Wondering if he was acting, she wished for a carnera.

Afterward, when she knew him better, Kopple saw that it had more to do with the discomfort of being in a situation that he could not control. He gets easily overwhelmed. And fears leaving New York. He controls his life in New York. He was not in the habit of taking a band on the road for three weeks; going to strange cities like Milan, Turin, Bologna, Madrid, Rome, Paris and London.

She said she would need total access. He said it was no problem. And it wasn't. He never once asked her to turn off the camera. About the closest she came to altering the situation she was recording was when they planned a gondola ride in Venice in advance. They "never never" discussed what was to be

Kopple's film "Harlan County about a miner's strike in Kentucky, won an Oscar in the feature documentary category. Her "Richard III," starring Rip Torn, was an adaptation of Shakespeare a lot of publicity, much of it negto address modern social issues. ative. She was an adopted daughter Among others, she has won awards of Allen's ex-companion. Mia Farat Cannes and the Sundance Film



Woody Allen demonstrating his love for Dixieland jazz on his European tour in 1996.

a director, she followed the not: Maysles' cinema verité style. The crew became part of the scenery: part of the cast, as it were. The 'plot" turns out to be whatever happens. The subjects eventually forget that the crew is filming. The camera itself gets to be, as Albert Maysles once described it, "some sort of weird bump on the cameraman's head.'

In addition to his band, Allen would be traveling with his sister Letty Aronson and his companion, row. Farrow had taken him to court

with the Maysles brothers on film, at least in part, to "legit-"Gimme Shelter," a documentary imize" the relationship; in any about The Rolling Stones. Later, as case, to explain it. Kopple thinks

'I think that the primary reason he agreed to it was to demonstrate his love for New Orleans jazz. And to allow the world to see him as a musician. Which is a different Woody Allen. New Orleans jazz is in the process of dying and he wants to do what he can to bring it back. He wants people to hear it and understand what he hears in it."

Although he told Kopple he was afraid that his audience might get bored, she knew better: "He would never have attempted to do this tour if he wasn't absolutely sure he could pull it off. He's going to do things well or he won't do them at all. That's the way he is; whether it's row. Farrow had taken him to court playing termis or playing jazz on the over it. It was a scandal. Some think clarinet. And believe me, he takes She started her career working that Allen may have wanted the being a musician very seriously."

Kopple does not think the tour had much to do with making

fun of it is dramatic.

money. (Allen donated his pay in Venice to the Fenice opera house, which had burned down.) There is no narration, no voice over to gum up the works. The story is what the camera sees and the tape recorder hears. There are hints but motiv-ation remains basically ambiguous. and you can only guess.

The luxurious hotels they check

into are almost literally out of sight. Have you ever seen a suite with its own maître d'and private swimming pool? As the elegant and urbane maître d' serves the dinner that has been prepared in the suite's private kitchen, Allen says in an ironic aside to Soon-Yi that "this guy is really a reformed serial killer."

No cheap one-liners for the bleachers, no hamming it up for the camera. This is somebody who is seriously involved with being funny. He is not acting — unless, of course, he acts so well that he gives

at impression.

At one point he says that film directors often make the sort of movies they liked when they were growing up. He grew up watching European films and that's why he makes them: "Maybe the Europeans like me because they like films that drone on. I'm very good at making films that drone on.

Kopple says that she loves "doing documentaries like hers because sooner or later all the planning goes out the window. You never know what's going to hap-pen." And the luncheon reunion with his parents after his return to New York that concludes the film turns out to be right out of — you guessed it — A Woody Allen movie. As his mother and father put on their coats and prepare to leave his apartment, Allen does a mini Groucho Marx eyebrow number for the camera, shrugs and says: "A lunch from hell."

this other Woody, who also played ("Wild Man Blues" opens in the clarinet.) Looked back on in later years, having made music is New York on April 17.)

'Titanic' Wins 14 Oscar Nominations; 'Amistad' Sinks

By John Horn

BEVERLY HILLS, California — "Titanic," the epic account of a fateful love affair on the doomed ocean liner, captured a record-tying 14 Academy Award nominations, including best picture, actress and director.

"L.A. Confidential" and "Good Will Hunting" each received nine nominations, including best picture. The other ing actress. Also nominated in the catbest picture nominees were "As Good As It Gets" and "The Full Monty."

Kate Winslet was nominated for best actress for "Titanic," as were Helena Bonham Carter for "The Wings of the Dove," Julie Christie for "Afterglow, Judi Dench for "Mrs. Brown" and Helen Hunt for "As Good As It Gets."

Robert Duvall's self-financed role in "The Apostle" earned him a best lead actor nomination. He will face Matt Damon from "Good Will Hunting," Peter Fonda from "Ulee's Gold," Dustin Hoffman from "Wag the Dog" and Jack Nicholson from "As Good As It Gets."

inations was Steven Spielberg, whose of the film for best picture, and as the "Amistad" was not selected for best picture, best director or best actor.

The only other film to get 14 Oscar nominations was "All About Eve," released in 1950. The record for most victories for a single film is held by "Ben-Hur" in 1959, which won 11. The 87-year-old Gloria Stuart in "Ti-

tanic" was nominated for best supportegory were Joan Cusack in "In & Out." nie Driver in "Good Will Hunt-Nights" and Kim Basinger in "L.A. was passed over for best actor. Confidential.

Burt Reynolds was nominated for best supporting actor for "Boogie Nights." The other nominees in the category were Robert Forster from "Jackie Brown," Anthony Hopkins from "Amistad." Greg Kinnear from "As Good As It Gets" and Robin Williams from "Good Will Hunting."

James Cameron, the driving force behind the \$200 million "Titanic," re-

Among those missing from the nom- ceived two nominations - as producer

Cameron will face for the directing Oscar: Peter Cattaneo for "The Full Monty." Gus Van Sant for "Good Will Hunting," Curtis Hanson for "L.A. Confidential" and Atom Egoyan for The Sweet Hereafter."

The other nominations for "Titanic" were for art direction, cinematography, costume design, editing, makeup, score. song ("My Heart Will Go On"), sound, d effects editing and visual effects. Julianne Moore in "Boogie The teen heartthrob Leonardo DiCaprio

Two high grossers collected no top nominations. "Men in Black" and "The Lost World: Jurassic Park" had four minor selections between them.

Foreign-language films nominated were "Beyond Silence" (Germany), "Character" (the Netherlands), "Four Days in September" (Brazil), "Secrets of the Heart" (Spain) and "The Thief

The Oscars will be given March 23.



PEOPLE

Yes. It's very obvious. He's in

your face with it. Watching him

spar with his clarinet close-up with

such very clear sound recording is

frightening as much as enlighten-ing. New Orleans jazz, a/k/a Dixie-

land, is so aggressively old. The

musicians joust with, more than

play it. It's easy to imagine being

he never understood how people

could say that they "used to" play

a musical instrument. He wonders

how and why they would ever stop

it's like breathing. You sense a

whiff of nostalgia and sometimes

regret coming from those, who, like

Richard Nixon's counsel Leonard Garment, once played saxophone with Woody Herman. (It has been

said that Allen named himself after

Wynton Marsalis once said that

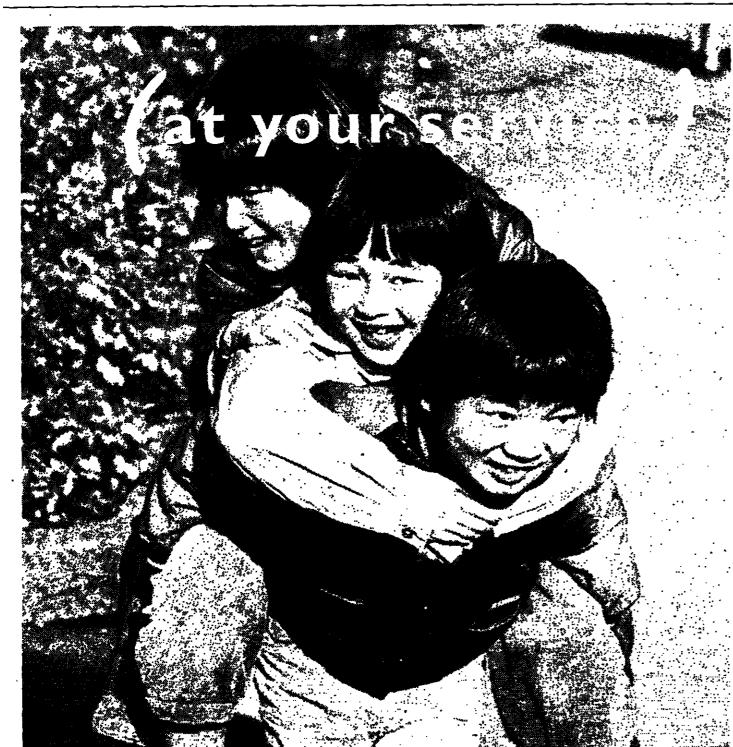
kidnapped in a time machine.

THE author who accused Steven Spielberg L and his production company, Dream-Works, of stealing from her work to make the movie "Amistad" has dropped her plagiarism suit and praised the movie as "a splendid piece of work." Barbara Chase-Riboud's \$10 million copyright infringement lawsuit said DreamWorks had taken material from her "Echo of Lions" for "Amistad," which is about a revolt in 1839 of Africans on a slave ship. "After my lawyers had a chance to review DreamWorks' files and other documents and evidence," Chase-Riboud said in a statement, "my lawyers and I concluded that neither Steven Spielberg nor DreamWorks did anything improper, and I instructed my lawyers to obi sash to formally announce their wedding conclude this matter in a timely and amicable in September. Their first child is expected in fashion. "In December, The New York Times reported that Chase-Riboud had written a 1986 novel, "Valide: A Novel of the Harem," containing passages that appeared in a scholarly book published 50 years earlier. Chase-Riboud admitted that she had used the material, but asserted she had done nothing wrong.

joined by Sandra Bullock and Fran Drescher in getting nominations for Razzie Awards, the annual spoof of the Oscars bonoring the worst in film. The latest "Batman & Robin" got 11 nominations, including one for George Clooney and Chris O'Donnell for worst screen couple. Winners will be announced on March 22, the day before the Oscars.

The Japanese public got their first look Tuesday at the fiancée of the American-born sumo star Akebono. Christine Reiko Kalina appeared with her gigantic betrothed at a Tokyo news conference in formal kimono and late May or early June, the couple said. Kalina was born in Japan to an American serviceman and his Japanese wife.

The widow of Oskar Schindler, the German industrialist who rescued more than 1,000 Jews from the Holocaust, has been granted a pension by Argentina to save her from poverty. A Kevin Costner and Val Kilmer are up this government spokesman said Tuesday that Emperon, a success story. Kevin Costner and Val Kilmer are up this government spokesman said Tuesday that Emperon, a success story.





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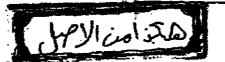
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